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March 30, 2012 • No 232

## Road closure threat to our business, says garden centre boss

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A GARDEN centre says it fears for its future as a result of the impact of the A2 road closure which swings into force on Monday.

The gas main on the A2 is being replaced which will force the High Street in Newington to be closed in both directions between Wickham Close and Station Road.

It is set to cause motorists and businesses headaches for three weeks.

But the owners of Gardening World, which runs the garden centre and African craft centre in Lower Hartlip Road, just off the A2, says it fears customers could steer clear at one of their busiest times of the year.

Carol Sage said: "This could not have come at a worse time for our business."

"Around Easter, gardeners begin to

start tidying up their gardens and get ready to plant for the spring and summer.

"Because of the publicity around the road closure – stating that the A2 will be closed at Newington – we are very worried all our customers who come to us from the Sittingbourne direction will think they have got to follow an 18-mile diversion to get to our side of the village.

"In fact, the village roads will be open for cars, and drivers will be able to take a short diversion which should take less than two minutes. Our business is highly seasonal and is concentrated within a very short space of time, so these three weeks are crucial to us.

"We know the gas pipe replacement work has to be done, but this just could not have come at a worse time for us and our customers."

Having originally been scheduled to

**Continued on page 2**



## A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

HIGH WIRE ACT: Energy firm's engineers help local wildlife to stay alive – **SEE INSIDE**

### WEATHER

#### Can sun drive crucial sales?

TRADERS are keeping their fingers crossed the good weather returns in time for the long Easter weekend as they look to bounce back against the economic doom and gloom with a strong start to the summer season. The Met Office says next weekend's weather should be good.

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### AIRPORT

#### Artist's horror vision of hub

A TERRIFYING image of a Sittingbourne covered in concrete has been produced by an artist to form part of a major exhibition opposing plans for an airport in the Thames Estuary. It shows the town dominated by a spaghetti junction-style road network and nearby villages decimated.

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### SPORT

#### Rugby club's fan appeal

SHEPPEY Rugby Club is appealing for supporters to head to Stupple Field on Saturday to help roar them on to success in a vital league fixture. They want as many people as possible to support the club in its fight for safety in London 3 South East as they face Folkestone.

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TODAY:

A dry day with variable cloud and sunny intervals. Feeling cooler than of late. Light to gentle north-westerly winds. Max temp 8-11C (46-52F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	05.02	5.2	17.55	5.1
Margate	06.06	3.9	18.42	3.8
St Mary's	11.09	4.1	23.51	4.2

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	Max 12C	Min 2C
Monday	Max 13C	Min 3C
Tuesday	Max 12C	Min 2C
Wednesday	Max 11C	Min 1C
Thursday	Max 13C	Min 3C
Friday	Max 14C	Min 6C

Information supplied by

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A2 closure to cause headaches for residents and businesses as vital gas main repair work takes place over coming weeks

**Continued from front page**

take place during the busy summer months last year, an outcry from traders and pressure from local politicians saw the plans pushed back so some work took place in October with the remainder taking place over the coming weeks.

The road has to be closed due to the large diameter of the new pipes and heavy plant that will need to be used.

Manu Malhotra, who runs the Malhotra newsagents on the High Street, added: "A lot of my customers think it is going to be complete chaos.

"Obviously the A2 is a very busy road and we will not really know how bad it will be until they start. We just hope it will be over as quickly as possible."

The gas main work is being carried out by Southern Gas Networks (SGN). SGN construction manager Russell Goodayle said: "All our work is being carried out in close consultation with Kent County Council and we will be doing everything we can to minimise disruption. I would like to apologise for the delays to this project, as well as any inconvenience that may be caused by our work.

"We understand that people can get frustrated by road works. However, the new plastic pipe has a minimum lifespan of 80 years.

"This means when the work is complete, people will continue to enjoy the benefits of a safe, reliable gas supply for years to come."

Kent County Council cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, Bryan Sweetland, said: "SGN has listened to what residents said during their public consultation. KCC and SGN then worked imaginatively and proactively to overcome these concerns

and further reduce congestion."

A signed diversion will be in place during the road closure.

It will take eastbound traffic onto the A278 and then the M2. Motorists should leave the M2 at junction five, and take the A249, which will lead back onto the A2 and into Newington. The reverse route applies for westbound traffic.

A separate diversion will be in place for non-motorway drivers.

Eastbound traffic should take the A230, the A229, Penenden Heath Road, the A249 and then the A2. The reverse route applies for westbound traffic.

CAMPAIGN

Firefighters back bid to tidy up alleyways to crackdown on blazes

By Chris Britcher

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FIREFIGHTERS are backing a campaign to clear up alleyways in key parts of Sheerness as part of an ongoing crackdown on deliberate blazes.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service, in partnership with Kent County Council, have jointly provided £15,000 to Swale Borough Council following a successful bid to the My Place Matters project.

This enables Swale council to transform certain areas in Marine Town including cleaning up graffiti and rubbish, plus the planting of flowerbeds and artwork installations.

The funding is designed to provide a means to make long-term improvements to areas and communities which suffer regularly from anti-social behaviour, fly-tipping and outdoor fires.

KFRS risk reduction manager Gary Stanford said: "These areas are a concern to us because fly-tipping can easily lead to deliberate fires and they have the potential to spread, causing widespread damage and possibly injury.

"It also means that our crews could be diverted or delayed from attending other incidents such as house fires and road traffic collisions.

"We welcome any initiative that helps to reduce the numbers of deliberate fires and we hope that the local community will fully support these efforts to make the area a safer and cleaner place to live."

Alleyways at James Street, Clyde Street and Alma Street have already been subject to a clean.

A number of partner agencies and volunteers have been involved in the project which also includes the installation of community artwork.

"Residents are encouraged to take back ownership and responsibility of these spaces and maintain them, keeping them clean and tidy and maybe even changing their use to a more community focused space.

Councillor John Morris, Swale council's cabinet member for communities, said "This alley makeover is the latest initiative we have held in the area to give local residents an opportunity to create a real sense of place.

"We want them to feel a sense of pride in living there.

"The council is trying to create a healthy environment with responsible people and so if residents are willing to help us to help them then we can really achieve something together."



BURNING ISSUE: Swale council hope initiative will clean up region

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## TECHNOLOGY

# Anti-social behaviour issue in your street? Now there's an app for that

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

MOBILE phones have become an essential part of our lives – becoming our diary, mobile TV, music player and hand-held internet access point.

And now they have become the latest weapon in the council's on-going fight against anti-social behaviour.

Swale Borough Council has harnessed the power of the smart phone – like Apple's iPhone – which allows the user not just to report instances of fly-tipping, graffiti or litter, but take and submit a photo and have the precise location recorded via the GPS in your handset.

What's more, it will send details to the council's customer services team on a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week service.

And if using existing apps prove a hit, the council says it will look at branding its own program just for use by local residents.

David Simmons, the council's cabinet member for the environment, said: "We want to engage with all of our residents and the use of technology is clearly a way that we can have a two-way dialogue with our residents who may not access information about the council through our customer call centre or leaflets.

"We will be analysing how this channel is used over the next 12 months to determine if branding a specific app for Swale will represent value for money.

"Smart phone apps are increasing in popularity, are simple to use and are a great way for the



**MODERN TAKE:** Swale council is using new apps for smart phones to allow the public to inform them of graffiti and litter

members of the public to keep the council informed about environmental issues that affect them in their communities."

A spokesman for the council explained how it would work: "If you were out on a Sunday afternoon and saw some graffiti you would start the app on your smart phone, which will ask you to take a photo while it finds your location using its GPS. Depending on the phone and app being used, this can be done very quickly.

"The report will be sent to our customer services team and the environmental response

team notified. The graffiti would be cleaned as soon as possible. It allows residents with smart phones to make the council aware of the problem straight away, thus reducing the risk of people forgetting to report the issue."

To download the app, go to your phone's market place – for example Apple's iStore for the iPhone – and search for UK My Council Services, Fix My Street and Love Clean Streets for more information. The apps are free to download.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## ➔ Sheps cooks up award

SHEPHERD Neame pubs have won a top award for the quality of their food.

The Faversham-firm's managed houses were awarded Best Food Offer at The Publican Awards 2012 held at a glitzy bash at the Grosvenor House Hotel in Park Lane, London on Wednesday. Sheps chief executive Jonathan Neame said: "This award is a huge testament to the commitment and skills of our chefs in their efforts to bring the best of Kent to customers."

## ➔ Here comes the ban

GARDENERS have just a few days left to use their hosepipes, before the ban kicks in on April 5.

The move comes as a result of the area being officially in 'drought' status. Water companies across the south and east confirmed they were to impose the ban. Swale is served by both Southern Water and South East Water. Anyone caught using a hose after the ban faces a £1,000 fine.

## ➔ Fuel can fire warning

FIREFIGHTERS have warned against storing up petrol and diesel in cans amid mixed Government messages over fears of strike action impacting on fuel supplies.

Comments – since retracted – by minister Francis Maude over using jerry cans to store fuel were fiercely criticised. Kent Fire & Rescue Services's Stuart Skilton said: "Petrol is a hazard as it gives off a highly flammable vapour and therefore must be handled with extreme care. We strongly advise against bulk buying and storage of petrol."

## WEATHER

## Traders hope for early season boost if sunshine encourages us to spend

IT may be a little premature, but with the Met Office predicting good weather for the long Easter weekend, business owners, traders and attraction bosses in Swale are keeping their fingers crossed the weathermen have got it right.

The unseasonably good weather over the last two weeks has provided a useful shot in the arm for businesses which have been struggling and are reliant on the tourist industry.

Jo James, the Kent Invicta Chamber chief executive, spoke for traders across Swale.

She said: "This Easter we are hoping the sun stays out, and keeps everyone happy.

"Easter and sunny weather gives a great feel-good factor. If the sun is out, people start coming out and going in to shops and are happy to spend something.

"This is exactly what traders and retailers across Sittingbourne and Sheppey need and exactly what a lot of people need too. It is good for everybody.

"The problem is we are spending too much time concentrating and dwelling on the negative. We need to start to focus on everything that is positive.

"Let's just enjoy what we have and get out there and have fun."

Faversham's Farming World boss Georgina Watson said: "We need something to cheer us all up so hopefully the weather will stay good for us."

The Met Office said: "Temperatures are likely to be well above the average for April, with highs reaching the low 20s during the long weekend."



**HAPPY DAYS:** Here's hoping for a great Easter

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Redbalti <i>(x2)</i>	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50
Rooster	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50
Beefsteak	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50
Vegetable	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50
Chicken	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50
Vegetable	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50	£12.50

	Chicken Nibla or Lamb Nibla	Beefsteak (Big Portion)
Pasta	12.80	12.80
Soup and Salad	12.80	12.80
Special Of Course	12.80	12.80
Alcohol	12.80	12.80

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## ECONOMY

# Pasty tax could spark a takeaway food war on our high streets

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@archant.co.uk

CONTROVERSIAL plans to put VAT on hot pies and pasties could spark a new hot food war on the high street, according to the boss of one of Kent's biggest independent food retailers.

Andrew Rook of JC Rook and Sons, which has fresh meat outlets across the county, including in the High Street, Sittingbourne, believes it could see butchers and bakers go head-to-head with traditional fish and chip shops in a bid to make up money lost by customers putting their nose up at the price hikes.

At present, VAT does not apply to a pie that has been baked on the premises and sold to customers as it is cooling down. However, if it is heated up by the shop to be sold to the customer, VAT does have to be applied.

Chancellor George Osborne is looking to close what is seen as a loophole in the legislation by making any food product sold above the ambient temperature of the store slapped with VAT.

It has made headlines this week as the so-called 'pasty tax'.

It is designed to stop the likes of Greggs and the major supermarkets selling what is essentially take-away, food but without the 20 per cent added VAT.

Mr Rook said: "In the past we have not offered chips because we did not want to be in the VAT bracket.

"But what this change will do is move a lot of the goal posts. In the short term we may expect some loss of trade as prices will rise, but we are

going to look at other things we can do to counter its impact."

And that could include offering chips.

The new regulations, outlined in last week's Budget, will come into force on October 1.

Mr Rook added: "It is a bit hard to tell how it will affect us until it comes in. Overall I think it will mean that we can do other things to complement what we offer the customer."

The legislation has been criticised for hitting the pockets of already hard pressed consumers.

It has also been said that it will be impossible to enforce the tax because of confusion on how it is applied.

Mr Rook said: "At what point do you call something a hot pie or just a pie that is still warm. It is all very ambiguous at the moment and that is why the bill will have to go through parliament to try and iron out these issues."

Simon Reynolds from the bakers A E Barrow and Sons in Sittingbourne added: "This is something that has happened for a long time in the industry.

"At the moment if we heat a pasty up for a customer we have to ring it through the till with the VAT added if it is cold we do not."

The pasty became something of a political hot potato this week as a result of the fuss.

At one stage Prime Minister David Cameron was caught out after telling journalists where he had last eaten one - only for the shop he claims to have visited at Leeds railway station to have been closed for the last five years.

Meanwhile, opponents have attempted to paint the tax as a war against the working class.



ROW: Chancellor and a pasty

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## ➔ Duo face theft charge

TWO men will appear before magistrates on April 12 after being charged following a report of theft of fuel.

Terry Adams, 42, and Declain Nast, 20, both of Sanders Court, Minster, have been charged with theft from a motor vehicle in Sittingbourne and Maidstone earlier this month.

Police have confirmed both men have been bailed to appear before Maidstone magistrates.

## ➔ Railway chugs back in

SITTINGBOURNE's steam railway returns in time for the Easter holiday with regular hourly services set to run through Sittingbourne Viaduct, Milton Regis (Asda) Halt and Kemsley Down between 11am and 4pm.

Organisers are also looking for help running the railway which is currently staffed entirely by volunteers.

To find out more about the timetable or how you could assist, visit [www.skrlr.net](http://www.skrlr.net).

## ➔ School says bonjour

PUPILS made friends from across the Channel recently when they were visited by a school from France.

Youngsters at Milstead & Frinsted Primary School received a special visit from their twinned school in the Loire, called Ecole Francois Guibault. Some 34 children made the journey to spend a day at the school, with youngsters crossing the language divide.

## FOOD AWARDS

# Father and son hog the limelight as they take pork pie champion crown

WHILE the row over pasties rages on, one local butcher had his focus firmly on his pork pies after they brought home the bacon by winning a top award.

Chris Barkaway, who runs AJ Barkaway in West Street, Faversham, with his son Paul, took home the title of Traditional Pork Pie Champion at a prestigious awards ceremony.

The father-and-son team entered several classes at the South of England Show at Ardingly, West Sussex, and trotted off with an armful of prizes from the show run by the British Pig Executive (BPEX).

He said: "We went to the BPEX awards with high hopes and are delighted with our performance.

"We entered 11 products including sausages, pies and black pudding and were lucky enough to be awarded 11 gold medal certificates and became the south east England pork pie champions, south east of England cold-eating pie champions with our pork and stilton pie, and also south east England black pudding champions."

The family-run shop has been in the town for more than 50 years and now has the sixth generation of Barkaway behind the counter.

Chris said: "We do pride ourselves on providing only the highest quality fresh meat products to our loyal customers. To ensure we stick to that, we locally source the meat where we can, and even hand-pick directly from farms."



**WINNER:** Chris (right) collects his pork pie award from John Brown of South England Pastries

They are no stranger to taking top prizes either; their products are three times winner of Kent's best sausage, best pork pie and twice holder of best butcher.

Chris added: "We are proud of what we have established. This is a family-run business which means we care.

"These awards are proof we are doing it right.

"Now we are heading for the British pie competition in Melton Mowbray, so have fingers crossed for that."

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## REGENERATION

# Portas £1m pot is 'too little' say critics as the deadline for pilot is hit

By James Benjamin

[yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk)

SHEERNESS retail chiefs are now playing a waiting game as the deadline for applications to become a pilot scheme under self-styled Queen of Shops, Mary Portas, closes today.

Appointed by the Government to conduct an independent review into the state of the nation's high streets, Miss Portas is now spearheading a £1 million fund which is offering cash to 12 pilot town centres across the UK.

It hopes to use them as guinea pigs for methods to breathe new life into fading areas by rolling out pioneering concepts and ideas.

It comes after a gradual decline in traditional shopping hubs, which are suffering the combined impacts of out-of-town shopping complexes, internet trading and the economic slump.

But Sheerness faces stiff competition from elsewhere in the county including Maidstone, Tonbridge and Ashford.

Supporters of the isle town's bid include traders, businesses, community groups, councillors and MP Gordon Henderson.

Chair of the Town Team which is spearheading the bid is Pete Giffen from the O.S.O.U fashion

store in the High Street.

He said: "We hope to demonstrate that we're looking at a scheme to benefit the whole town, our community, traders, businesses and visitors."

Swale council's regeneration officer for town centres, Jill Read, said: "Should we be successful, delivery of the ideas will involve the whole community. This is a huge opportunity for us to make our town the bustling, lively place we know it should and can be."

However, the scheme has attracted some criticism.

Helen Dickinson, head of UK retail at professional service giant KPMG, warned it risked being undermined through a lack of funding.

She explained: "Mary Portas' mission to rescue the British high street has struck a tone with retailers and communities across the country desperate to access the support they need to save their local high street. The sheer number of towns bidding for funding shows how widespread the problem is in the UK. Nowhere seems immune from the battle of survival."

"Portas has put the challenge of managing local conflicting agendas and rivalries squarely on the shoulders of the community."

"Exactly how the scheme will be measured is



## WHO IS MARY PORTAS?

DAUGHTER of a sales director at tea maker Brooke Bond, Mary Portas was destined to make her name on the stage after winning a place at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art as a teenager.

But when her mother died when Mary was just 16, then her father two years later, her dreams were shattered.

Having to help her family, she started a career in retail, first with a Saturday job and then window dressing for Harrods and TopShop.

She went on to work for Harvey Nichols where she is credited with turning it into a leading modern fashion brand. Ending up on the board, she then launched her own retail and brand agency.

Her big break on TV was with Mary, Queen of Shops, which saw her turn around the fortunes of fading shops.

Last year she was appointed by David Cameron to conduct an independent review into high streets.

## SHOP 'TIL SHE DROPS:

Mary Portas is spearheading a £1 million fund to pilot town centres across the UK in the hope of improving fast declining high streets

yet to be clarified. But in spirit this concept of local community teams working together to come up with innovative ways to improve the high street is exactly what is needed.

"However, given the scale of the challenges facing the modern high street, a share of £1 million will hardly scratch the surface."

"To give this pilot the best chance of success then the source and magnitude of proper funding must be addressed."

"Without it these local communities won't be able to make real changes and implement and experiment with innovative ideas."



## with a free singing lesson at VocaDemy

VocaDemy is the great educational past time for your child. With 8 schools already established around Sussex and Hampshire it's no wonder there's a high demand for growth into neighboring counties. VocaDemy is now opening it's doors in Kent.

VocaDemy not only offers the tools and techniques to help students develop their vocal and performance skills but also promises to guide them into becoming a more confident person. With their new skills as an active performer they will have mastered how to overcome those nerves, so when it comes to answering 'quick-fire' questions at school, talking in confidence to new people or going up for a lead role in a show they will no longer have to shy away.

Students will be given ample opportunity to showcase their new abilities, for instance at end of term gigs, held at great live music venues alongside a professional backing band, an opportunity to co host VocaDemy's very own weekly radio show, public events and even a chance to star in their own music video.

Courses run once a week, for ages 7-18 with 1-2 hour lessons (dependant on age). Sessions are taught by professional vocalists (all with CRB checks) and accommodates for all abilities. Students are taught technique, performance, self-expression and confidence building.

**VocaDemy are offering a FREE 60 minute lesson.**

*"Amber is absolutely loving lessons and her confidence has grown so much. She even stood up to a piano and sung a solo in a restaurant last week!" Sarah, mum of Amber Utley - age 9.*

*"Laura's confidence has really improved due to VocaDemy. She put herself forward for an audition for 'Joseph' and she got a lead role! Thank you - she loves VocaDemy." Sam Burge, mum of Laura Burge - age 11.*

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## ENVIRONMENT

## Energy firm's bright idea to keep birds from danger

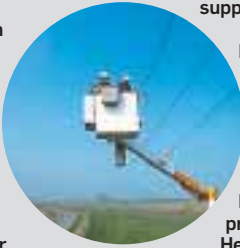
ENGINEERS have splashed out £5,000 to help cut down the number of birds flying into overhead electricity lines on Sheppey.

Last Friday, a team of linesmen spent hours installing special diverters onto the cables covering a stretch of some 700 metres.

The diverters are brightly-coloured plastic discs attached to the lines on sprung clips. They should alert the birds to potential danger and make them take a different route.

Birds can be injured or even killed if they collide with the overhead cable, often because they have poor eyesight and cannot see the lines before they get entangled in them. The result can mean power being lost to nearby homes.

Engineers at UK Power Networks – the firm which distributes power across London and the south east through its network – installed the devices along Harty Ferry Road.



The project cost more than £5,000, with a diverter being put on a line every five metres.

Linesman Trevor Lee, who helped install the diverters, said: "The project went very well – there were no problems. It's a straightforward procedure and our methods mean that customers' supplies aren't interrupted.

"We at UK Power Networks take our environmental responsibilities very seriously."

Rolf Williams, communications officer for the RSPB, helped to oversee the project.

He said: "All too often people are quick to criticise big companies. But when we approached UK Power Networks about fitting the diverters they were very speedy and very efficient – I'm extremely impressed. Although the area is not a designated RSPB reserve, it is important for birdlife as a feeding zone."



## FUNDRAISER

## Mum is sold on idea to help charity raise cash

A CHANCE to sell and buy nearly new children's clothes, toys and equipment takes place next month – with all proceeds going to help Bobbing-based children's hospice Demelza.

Kinderfayre aims to offers cash-strapped parents a new way to sell and buy children's items, without resorting to the likes of auction websites like eBay or manning a market stall.

The woman behind the scheme, Donna Martin, said: "I have two children and a whole heap of nice stuff that I haven't used or just don't need anymore, and wanted to find a way of making some money by selling it, but also giving to charity.

"I know that other people are in a similar position, so I have set up Kinderfayre, which is essentially a market designed to help those wanting to buy and sell good quality, second-hand children's stuff, whilst also contributing to a good cause."

Sellers simply register themselves and their items for sale online, print off the tags generated by the site, and then drop their items off at the venue in the morning.

Kinderfayre organisers then take responsibility for arranging and selling the items at the market on behalf of the sellers.

The next market takes place on April 21 in Capel le Ferne village hall, near Folkestone. People looking to sell items for babies and children, including clothes, toys, shoes, furniture, games, equipment and books, should register online at [www.kinderfayre.co.uk](http://www.kinderfayre.co.uk).

Prospective buyers just need to turn up on the day.

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## AIRPORT

# Picture the concrete jungle of airport hub

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

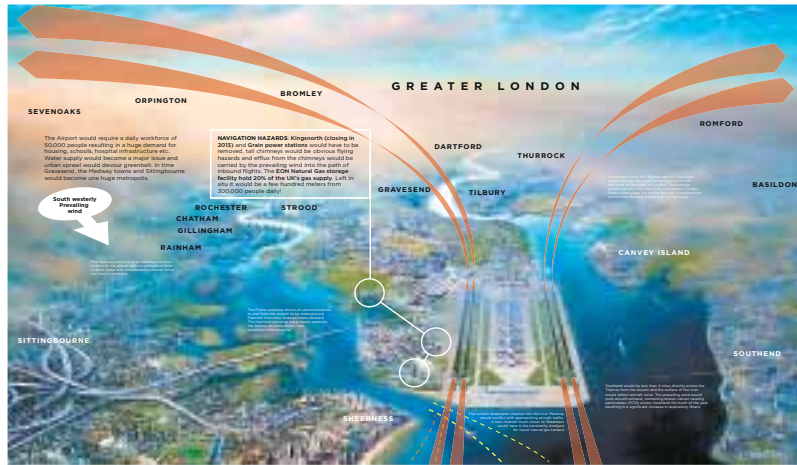
THIS image shows an artist's impression of a nightmare scenario if the go-ahead is given for an airport in the Thames Estuary – with Sittingbourne dwarfed by a huge spaghetti junction-style road network and villages like Iwade destroyed.

The image, which takes the plans released by architect Lord Foster as its inspiration, is the creation of Kevin Clarkson.

Along with eight others, their work forms an exhibition called *Beauty or the Beast*, which opposes the controversial plans for a new airport.

Two plans have currently been touted; one on Grain and the other on reclaimed land in the estuary. Championed by London Mayor Boris Johnson, it has been dubbed 'Boris Island'.

Both proposals have been opposed by Swale Borough Council, MP Gordon Henderson, Kent County Council, and authorities on both sides of the estuary.



**FUTURE FEAR:** Clarkson's powerful image shows Sittingbourne (bottom left) covered by roads

Mr Clarkson's striking image – *The Thames Estuary Hub Airport: An Inconvenient Truth* – seeks to demonstrate how Kent would be transformed. His work shows how the series of roads, railways, new towns and other building work needed for a massive £70 billion four-runway airport would swallow up the area.

In his image, Sittingbourne is replaced with a spaghetti junction-style series of roads serving the expansion area. A huge motorway links from this through newly formed urban areas before destroying the picturesque village of Iwade and other rural settings.

It then joins a futuristic suspension bridge similar to the Severn crossing, allowing motorists to get to the Hoo Peninsula.

Mr Clarkson said: "The exhibition will give a

snapshot of what the Thames and Medway estuaries mean to their communities and highlights the devastation an airport twice the size of Heathrow would have on health and the quality of life of people living there.

"These are issues airbrushed out of the visuals we have seen issued by Lord Foster.

"I have tried to show just how close towns in Kent and Essex would be to this airport if built because whenever I read about this in the London media no-one seems to appreciate just how many people would be affected by an airport on this scale.

"The hundreds of thousands of families would all see their quality of life severely affected."

■ **The exhibition runs at the Nucleus Art Gallery off Chatham High Street from Saturday, March 31 until April 5.**

## FACILITIES

## Easter council closure

COUNCIL offices in Faversham and Sittingbourne will be closed through the Easter weekend, officials have warned.

They will close their doors at close of business on Thursday, April 5 and not re-open until Tuesday, April 10. The Sheppey Gateway will be shut on Friday and Monday but will open on Saturday, April 7. The library will also open.

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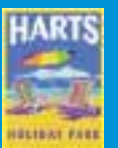
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## News

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## CRIME

## Pair await day in court

A TEENAGER is one of two men charged by police in connection with criminal damage to a motor vehicle.

Patrick Streetfield, 19, of Willow Avenue, and Ben Sidders, 20, of Lion Field, both of Faversham, were charged with criminal damage after a vehicle was damaged in Stone Street in the town. The crime was reported on Monday, March 19.

Both have been bailed to appear at Maidstone Magistrates' Court on April 5.

## ENTERTAINMENT

## Sun spoils TV signal

THE unseasonably warm weather is playing havoc with more than just our water supplies and wildlife.

TV viewers across Swale who use the Freeview service have complained of problems accessing a number of channels - including the likes of ITV1.

According to the firm, the high atmospheric pressure, caused by a result of the recent warm weather, has been causing problems with communications systems, including digital TV reception.

## SWIMMING

## Trio collect awards

ALL three members of the Sheerness Swimming Club & Lifeguard Corps who took part in the Royal Lifesaving Society Kent Branch Life Support Championships on Sunday came away with medals.

The championship was held in Rochester where youngsters from across Kent were tested on their resuscitation skills. Georgia March, 15 and Emily Harrison, 14, both from Sheerness, and Charlotte Newton, 12, from Minster all picked up awards.

## HISTORY



DISASTER: 100 years since ship's ill-fated voyage

## Rare chance to see private collection of Titanic relics

By Chris Murphy

[yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk)

A SPECIAL exhibition sails into Faversham next week, bringing with it the tale of one of the most famous ships of all time - Titanic.

Private enthusiast Matthew Snoad will bring a collection which includes photographs, models and artefacts from the cruise liner which set sail from Southampton 100 years ago on its debut voyage across the Atlantic.

But after striking an iceberg just days into its journey the boat which had been dubbed 'unsinkable' found itself mortally wounded.

It sank in the icy waters with the death of 1,517 passengers and crew.

Mr Snoad's exhibition - RMS Titanic 100 Years On - remembers the remarkable feat of engineering, and the society which surrounded its creation, marketing and ultimately its demise.

The exhibition takes place at the Fleur de Lis Gallery.

The Preston Street gallery said it is delighted to have secured "such an extraordinary collector willing to show off all he has on the subject".

One of the volunteers, Pam McClean, said: "We don't know too much yet of what will be on show, but have promised it will be of extra interest to those with a curiosity for the Titanic."

"We know there will be photos, models, and plenty of background information. There is already a major buzz about the Titanic as this is now 100 years since the ill-fated debut voyage."

The fascination around the Titanic continues. James Cameron's film - Titanic - is being re-released in 3D while Downton Abbey writer Julian Fellowes' TV dramatisation of Titanic pulled in seven million viewers last weekend.

The Faversham exhibition runs between April 5 and 1 May.

Mrs McClean said: "I am sure there will be something for everybody on display."

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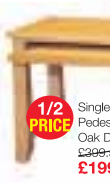
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## News

## NATURE

# School bird counters watch blackbirds get top marks

By James Benjamin

yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk

BLACKBIRDS are once again top of the class for punctuality and attendance across the county, according to the results of the RSPB's Big Schools Birdwatch survey.

Schools from across Sittingbourne, Sheppey and the surrounding villages took part in the 2012 survey which saw children and teachers monitor the birds they could see in and around their schools.

According to the findings, the blackbird accounted for an average of 5.60 birds in 89.2 per cent of schools.

The starling came in a close second, with an average of 4.58 birds per school being registered in 53.0 per cent of schools.

The black-headed gull was the third most-spotted bird in 39.8 per cent of schools, averaging a 3.92 attendance of birds per school.

More than 3,000 schoolchildren and teachers from 62 schools across the county took part by counting birds in the annual survey during the last two weeks of January.

In the national leagues, the blackbird retained its top spot for the fourth year running.

Blackbirds eat invertebrates including worms and grubs, which they find more easily in milder

winter conditions, and open playing fields in schools can provide a rich area for feeding.

The short-cropped grass is ideal for birds to find natural food supplies.

Nationally, more than 110,000 birds were counted in this year's survey, and since its launch 10 years ago, more than 70 different species have been recorded in school grounds, ranging from starlings and house sparrows to kestrels.

National trends also saw the 'red listed' herring gull improving its attendance record, as 40.4 per cent of schools reported seeing black-headed gulls, 21.7 per cent saw common gulls and 10.3 per cent saw herring gulls.

Herring gull numbers reported in schools have been steadily increasing and this year reached the top 20 at number 17 in the national league.

Faye Mackender, RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch project manager, said: "The Big Schools' Birdwatch is a brilliant way of getting young people interested in nature and excited about what they can see through the classroom window."

Since its launch, the survey has grown in popularity and the RSPB has also introduced the Little Schools' Birdwatch, especially designed for five-year-olds and under and the Really Big Schools' Birdwatch for the 11 to 14-year-olds age group.





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VEGETARIAN: Mushrooms, Green Peppers, Sweetcorn							

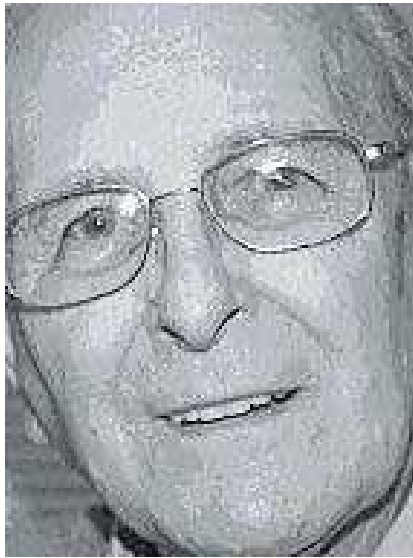
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# KENT REMEMBERED



**HARD TIMES:** Ron Leagas, now 87, lied to join the Army in World War Two and ended up in Normandy

## Mum's cooking put Ron in firing line in France

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@archant.co.uk

A NEW book focuses on the children of World War Two who not only had to survive the bombs raining down on Britain's cities, but joined in with the fighting.

In his book *Blitz Kids*, Sean Longden interviews men and women who were teenagers at the time of the conflict.

One of them is Ron Leagas, who now lives in Ramsgate. The 87-year-old grew up in Leyton in London, which was heavily bombed when the Luftwaffe targeted the East End.

He said: "I always remember the first time the sirens went off. I was playing in the street and my aunt came running out of her house and rushed all the kids into a shelter at the bottom of the garden."

"I can remember being 14 and walking out of the door one day and bombs were coming down in rows. Luckily they landed in a cemetery opposite our house."

Mr Leagas was too young to join the Army in 1941, when he was 16, but after a row with his mother he found his way to the recruiting office.

He said: "I wasn't desperate to join the Army. I was stuck doing a building job and I just got fed up on a hot day."

"I went home in a mood and had an argument about the stew mum had made."

"I said I wanted egg and chips and we had a row and she ended up throwing the stew at me. So I went off saying I was going to join the Army."

The veteran had to forge a note from his father to the recruiting sergeant saying he was old enough to join up.

He said: "At first he said I was too young so I told him that my ID had been lost when our house got bombed."

"I came back with this 'note' from my father who I said was in the café over the road. The sergeant let me in for being cheeky, he said."

Mr Leagas trained at Howe Barracks in Canterbury, preparing for the invasion of Europe. He was the driver of a Bren gun carrier on the beaches of Normandy.

He said: "That was a terrible day; I was about



third carrier onto the beach, but the first one got blown up straight away.

"We had to carry on pushing forward but refused to drive over the bodies, so they made us clear them up with a shovel."

"It was a terrible job."

Mr Leagas continued to fight in France until he was injured by an enemy mortar.

He said: "I heard a mortar gun warming up and the next thing I remember I woke up in hospital."

Mr Leagas met Sean Longden at the War and Peace show held at Paddock Wood.

Mr Longden said: "I was inspired to write the book by the story of my own grandfather who left his home in Queens Park and joined the Army aged 16 during World War One."

"What is less well known is the story of the underage volunteers during World War Two."

■ See more news at [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

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OPINION

# Medway a city in all but name, despite our bid being rejected

The future is bright for Medway, and we will not be knocked off track argues **Mike O'Brien**, a Conservative councillor on Medway Council

MEDWAY was one of 25 areas to bid for city status as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations this year.

Even though the bookmakers had us running a close second, at 6-1, we were not successful this time, beaten to the title by Chelmsford, Perth and St Asaph.

Whilst this is disappointing news, the City of Medway remains our aspiration – we are a city in all but name with our historic cathedral, four universities and a diverse economy.

Each of the five towns has its own distinct identity under one umbrella – Medway. It's what makes our area unique.

The bid was an excellent opportunity to showcase all that is great about the area – just look at the positive national coverage Medway received for

around 5p per person – it is helping to establish Medway firmly on the map.

Whilst the vast majority of residents supported the bid, there were a small minority of vocal opponents. Most were not opposed to city status in principle, only disagreed on when and which part of Medway should receive it.

But the Government guidelines were clear in that the application needed to be for the whole local authority area.

We can take pride in the efforts that were made by everyone in Medway including local businesses, newspapers, schools and the community, who have worked tirelessly to promote the area and can take pride in the knowledge that Medway is a fantastic and safe place to live and work.

We have 28 days of free festivals, the most in the South East, and 2012 is going to be a Year of Celebration with the bi-centenary of Dickens' birth and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee playing a key part.

This will culminate in a River Festival in June and six beacons being lit across the area.

Medway has a rich heritage and close historic ties with the Armed Forces, which includes the Royal Engineers who will be celebrating their 200th anniversary in Gillingham this year.

It is also a centre for sporting excellence, with Medway Park now playing host to world championship events and as a pre-Olympic training camp for Senegal, Congo and Chad.

In August it will be holding the British Transplant Games.

We can see the regeneration



6699

We are building a Medway that our children will enjoy

of the area taking shape before our eyes, with the new road infrastructure completed and new housing being developed, such as at Victory Quays.

There are now some 600 companies employing 6,000 people on the Medway City Estate alone and we are justifiably proud of the 12,000 students studying in our four universities.

We have wonderful countryside right on our doorstep, which is why the council is leading the fight against a Thames estuary airport.

We have lots to be proud of in Medway; we will not be knocked off track. We are building a Medway that our children will enjoy and prosper in, let us celebrate Medway and all that we have achieved and continue to achieve, together.

## KOS COMMENT

### Parent power wins out on grammar places

THIS week saw the historic moment the district of Sevenoaks was finally granted the grammar school places its politicians and communities have been fighting to have for years.

It marked a significant moment in the history of selective schooling, where there has been no major expansion of grammars for 50 years. While some who oppose the selective system may see this as a knock to the campaign against such schools, Kent is a selective county and therefore whether for or against it, there needs to be provision for children who pass the 11-plus.

This was never an argument about whether selective schooling is right or wrong, this was about ensuring the right provision for our youngsters.

### Watch out April fools

SUNDAY is potentially the worst day for April Fool's Day.

When your head is slightly fuzzy from the night before or simply relaxed – it's when you'll least expect a prank and are more likely to fall for it. So pranksters, get ready to take advantage of all those unsuspecting victims.

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## Letters/emails/twitter

**Ramsgate  
seafront**  
by Peter Winkworth,  
from Monkton,  
near Ramsgate



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## Estuary airport is a done deal

WASTE an opportunity and ensure High Speed 2 does not have proper connections with Heathrow.

Claims to wish to explore all options for increased air capacity?

Except, of course, for expansion at Stansted; except for Gatwick; except for expansion at Heathrow.

Ignore calls from many prominent business leaders – including those in the aviation industry – to do so?

Turn down a substantial financial offer from Sir Richard Branson to help pay for the expansion of Heathrow?

Narrows it down a bit doesn't it?

Can Messrs Cameron and Johnson convince us they have not already made their minds up about the Thames estuary option?

**Bill Stevens, Faversham**

## Public want truth, not lies

IN THE interests of all of us campaigning to stop this so-called estuary airport, the Government should not be running this country... they can't even answer people's emails.

I'm aware they get thousands of emails, letters, but they can't even answer the people who put them in office.

Never again am I going to vote for any political party, all they do is lie and stab you in the back.

Cameron said in 2010 election manifesto that there would be no estuary airport – lies again.

When will these people stop lying to us, the public?

Then they have secret talks, saying it's not in the public's interest for us to know. No Mr Cameron, it is in my interest.

Campaigns are hard enough without politics involved in

them, so wake up government, give some answers.

No estuary airport.

**Robert Standing, by email**

## Town vision is a blind alley

I ATTENDED the presentation at the Civic Centre about the Mary Portas project.

I would like to reflect the concerns expressed by some members of local business that the feeling one gets coming into the town of Ashford is not what is expected given the immense publicity given nationally to the shared space and the logo 'Ashford is the place to be'.

I attended a conference in the town some 17 years ago.

Our guest speaker was Richard Branson, the Virgin boss. He gave a warning to tackle the economic development of Ashford now because when Ebbleton station opened it would be too late. I am sorry to say this has come true.

Some 24 years on Ashford Borough Council and I have been to many presentations hearing what should be done for Ashford to prosper.

Here we are in 2012, and we are still waiting for links from the station via the outlet village and the town centre, the education area, the transport hub and the commercial centre.

So far nothing.

Now we depend on a handout of £100,000 to revamp Pall Mall shopping precinct.

We were told Ashford needs good schools, good leisure centres, an athletic stadium and a good department store to attract people to move to the area. We have them and if these people are here they should be shopping in Ashford.

I don't think they do.

May I add my 24 years have been on the opposition bench of the council.

No more visions, but more actions.

Make Ashford a place people

want to come and bring the family and enjoy a lovely day

**George Koowaree,  
Kent County Councillor for  
Ashford East, member of  
Town Centre Partnership  
Board**

## Drivers must vote change in

I THOROUGHLY agree with Brian Mooney of the Fair Deal for the Motorist Campaign, as he stated that nearly £50 billion is collected annually in direct motoring taxes, yet only about £4bn is reinvested in new or improved roads.

Yet this greedy government is not satisfied that drivers are paying enough and wants to charge us for new roads which inevitably will lead to their goal of nationwide road tolls.

To put this into perspective, about 85 per cent of passenger miles are by car, rising to about 92 per cent if we include

bus/coach travel, with the small balance by rail.

Yet a complete new rail system (Crossrail) is being constructed under London (which already has a good public transport system) at a cost of £15bn and proposals to spend a start-up £20bn on HS2, which will only be affordable to a very limited customer base and will rely on state subsidies forever.

Private rail companies receive about £5bn in subsidies, yet we still have some of the highest ticket prices in Europe.

If people want to drive on good roads, have reasonable fuel costs and get a more balanced transport expenditure, then in both local and general elections, they have to think beyond the three major parties when it comes to voting.

Otherwise regardless of party, it will just be more of the same.

**Terry Hudson, Herne Bay**

## Responding to hidden threat

THERE are 800,000 people living with dementia in the UK, yet a new report by the Alzheimer's Society shows that three quarters of us don't feel the country is geared up to deal with dementia.

The Dementia 2012 report has found that almost half a million people with dementia are battling depression, loneliness or anxiety.

Not only do they face a struggle for a diagnosis and support from the health and social care system, but everyday things we all take for granted – getting to the shops, spending time with friends and family, getting money from the bank, going on holiday – are made difficult by the lack of understanding of dementia in our communities.

We must face up to the fact that people with dementia and their carers are being failed.

In the 1950s attitudes to cancer changed, and in the 1980s we did the same for Aids.

Now is the time to begin a movement on dementia.

From Plymouth to Preston and from the boardroom to bus drivers, we all need to respond to the dementia challenge.

**Rosemary Barfoot,  
Hildenborough**

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Edited by **Adam Aiken**



## Advice pays dividends as mystery gets solved

**Q** I WROTE to you after my husband died and I found payments had been going from his Barclays account to a firm called Readycredit. I had no replies from the firms you identified who have Readycredit as part of their name, so I tried the last resort you suggested and traced the payments through Barclays to Santander. They looked into it and I received almost the full amount back, which was very welcome. Thank you very much indeed for your help.

**A** It is always good to hear that advice has worked and a reader is better off. You found from bank statements your husband's Barclays account had been paying £13 a month to a mysterious firm called Readycredit. These payments, totalling £2,743, were completely unexplained, and after your husband died, nobody contacted you or his bank to ask why they had stopped. I found a number of firms with offshoots or departments called Readycredit. They included Arcadia Group, which is linked to Burton Menswear, and Viking Collection, which is linked to Santander-owned Abbey National. The real problem was the payments were made by standing order. All Barclays knew was the sort code and account number to which the money was sent. So, top marks to Barclays for tracing where the cash ended up, and I am pleased it found its way back to you.

**Q** MY husband and I live in a house with 18 acres of pasture land attached, used for our own horses and for growing hay for our own use. We have a barn and stables, and have been here 18 years after buying the property and land as one lot. We are now thinking of downsizing, but I have heard to my horror that capital gains tax could be due on any profit made on the sale of the land, even though it is part of our home. Is this a recent ruling?

**A** THERE has been no change in the rules, and I am afraid you may well be facing a bill for capital gains tax. Your best bet is to try to minimise it by claiming the allowances and reliefs that are available. The basic rule is that we are all allowed one home that is free from gains tax when we sell it. In official language, this exemption includes any garden or grounds that are necessary for the "reasonable enjoyment" of the property, having regard to its size and character. The taxman will not bat an eyelid at land up to 5,000sq m, but 18 acres is more than 72,000sq m. You will need a professional negotiator – perhaps a local accountant working with a valuer – to try to show that the land matches the size and character of your house. Since keeping horses is probably not nowadays seen as being necessary for the reasonable enjoyment

**TONY HETHERINGTON**  
MONEY CLINIC



of your home, I am not optimistic. But you can reduce the tax by claiming the annual gains tax exemption, and relief for any improvements and the legal and other costs linked to the sale.

**Q** I AM named as executor in my cousin's will, but we lost touch years ago. What is the procedure for resigning as executor while he is still alive?

**A** IF YOU cannot contact your cousin, there is no way to tell him that you no longer want this responsibility. You can only wait until he dies and then decline to act as executor.

**Q** I HAVE been left £1,000 of War Loan. How do I encash this, and is it worth £1,000?

**A** War Loan is money borrowed by the Government, originally to fund the World War One. It pays 3.5pc interest and trades on the stock market, currently at about £840 for a £1,000 certificate. Your bank's stockbroking department can sell it for you.

**Q** I AM sending you a letter I received from Mr Ling Huan, of the Wing Lung Bank in Hong Kong. It is obviously a trick, but I thought other readers might be amused, and there is always the chance someone may be tempted to respond. Does this bank actually exist?

**A** THE Wing Lung Bank really does exist, but I doubt if the same can be said for Ling Huan. Last year another reader also sent me a letter he received from Ling Huan, spinning the same yarn about how a customer had died, leaving a huge amount of cash unclaimed in his account. The reader was asked to pose as the deceased's next of kin, claim the money, and split it with Ling Huan – exactly the same scheme as proposed in the letter you have received. Nobody should fall for this. You are right. It is a trick. Anyone who replies will be milked for legal fees, taxes and bribes. And, of course, there is no treasure trove of unclaimed cash, just as there is no Ling Huan.

**■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.**

## Stop smoking for your financial good health

The health benefits of stopping smoking are well documented, but those who kick the habit can also find themselves quids in. **ADAM AIKEN** reports

WE have recently had the latest No-Smoking Day – the annual event when people are encouraged to pack in the habit.

There is rarely a shortage of pressure on smokers to change their behaviour. Scare tactics are often used, but campaigners can also opt for gentler approaches.

What is usually consistent, however, is the content of these campaigns, with a strong focus on health.

But on top of the obvious health grounds, there are also good financial reasons to stop smoking.

For a start, there is the increasing cost of tobacco. Against the backdrop of higher living costs, wage freezes and high unemployment, it is easy to see just how much smoking can make an ever-bigger dent in your pocket.

Following the recent budget, a packet of 20 cigarettes now costs an average of nearly £7.50. That means someone smoking 20 a day will spend about £2,750 a year on the habit.

If national insurance and tax are taken into account, a basic-rate taxpayer needs to earn approaching £4,000 a year to pay for it.

Heavier smokers, of course, will spend even more than this.

But even if you are a 'casual' smoker and you puff away a lot less than this, you could still find yourself stung financially.

For a start, some home insurers will ask if you are a smoker because homes with smokers in them are often considered to be more at risk of catching fire.

But the real savings often come with life insurance policies.

According to price-comparison service Moneysupermarket.com, a smoker can pay thousands of pounds extra for life insurance and critical illness cover compared with their non-smoking peers.

So added to the cost of not having to buy tobacco any more, the savings can quickly mount up for those who give up smoking.

Emma Walker, head of protection at Moneysupermarket, said: "Not only can smokers reap the medical benefits of kicking the habit, they can avoid letting their hard-earned cash go up in smoke, too."

"With significant savings to be made, those who make the decision to quit should shop around for the best insurance deal to suit their circumstances."



**NO IFS OR BUTTS:** Kicking the habit can save serious cash on insurance costs

### TOP TIPS

■ As with all insurance products, do not automatically plump for the lowest premiums without looking at what you are getting for your money. Check the smallprint. Although stopping smoking is likely to lower your premiums on a like-for-like basis, choosing what cover to buy should not be simply about price.

■ Take care when filling out your application form and make sure your answers are truthful and correct. Give all your relevant personal information and medical history. If you don't, you risk any claim being rejected.

■ As with a will, always review your life insurance and/or critical illness cover if your circumstances change. A new job, getting married or divorced or starting a family might all be events that impact your requirements when it comes to taking out protection.

■ Don't assume your bank will give you the best deal. It might do, of course, but there are plenty of comparison sites, brokers and standalone life insurance providers who might offer you lower premiums for the same (or better) cover.

Moneysupermarket's research demonstrates some of the savings people can make by stopping smoking.

A 30-year-old man looking to take out £150,000-worth of combined critical illness cover and life insurance could save at least £5,490 with Aviva over 25 years if he stopped smoking. A woman wanting the same level of cover could save at least £2,740 with Ageas Protect.

A word of warning, though: insurance companies consider ex-smokers to be "non-smokers" only a year after they have given up. You cannot stop today and immediately qualify for lower premiums.

Matt Morris, senior policy adviser

at life insurance broker Lifesearch, said it was important to shop around for a better deal once you have become a non-smoker, but he warned that other changes in your health meant there was no certainty that you would be able to cut the overall cost.

He said cheaper premiums were not certain, as they also depended on age and health, but there was a very good chance that they would fall.

"It is important to make sure you have a new policy in place before cancelling the existing one, as a new policy could turn up some nasty surprises in underwriting and may even be declined if your health has

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If you have a business story or any news you think we should be covering in this section, reporter **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you. You can phone him on **01303 817181** or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

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# Business Week

Your business is our business

## 'Accentuating the positive will boost trade and investment'

**R**ECENT weeks have seen an encouraging number of positive surveys about the UK's trade, manufacturing, construction and service sectors.

Interest rates are at an all-time low; however, this is tempered by difficult trading in some parts of the retail sector, escalating fuel prices and, for some companies, difficulties with raising business finance. The continued uncertainty within the Eurozone also affects the UK's economic success.

Economists are not short with supplying reams of economic data, but how are we supposed to interpret this?

Indeed, the Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Mervyn King, has said that for much of 2012 we will most probably see a 'zigzagging' in positive and negative quarterly growth.

Personally, I do detect some shoots of optimism for the UK economy; however, data is 'data', and as a business-woman I am passionate about how we can make Kent's economy better.

'Economic success' is an abstract; we're actually talking about 'people success'. So, who is responsible for contributing to 'people success'?

Well, of course it's the Government, local authorities in the form of Kent County Council and Medway Council, district councils, business-support organisations, schools, colleges, universities and, not least, the private sector.

But we all have a responsibility in 'people success' and, to ensure this, I believe we must foster a greater sense of positivity and collaboration.

We only need to look at the UK unem-

**Olga D'Silva**, head of Zên Languages and chair of IoD Kent's International Business Forum, gives her perspective on the state of the county's economy and what its prospects might be

ployment figures published in March 2012. There are 2.67 million people unemployed, of which, alarmingly, 22.5 per cent are young people aged 16 to 24. We must do everything we can to halt this statistic, particularly youth unemployment; we cannot afford to have a lost generation.

In fact, Sir Mervyn, when interviewed by young journalists as part of the BBC's School Report, said: "It's far easier being the Governor of the Bank of England than being unemployed."

So, what are we doing to make the Kent economy stronger?

In March, for example, I was privileged to attend two events, one highlighting Kent as a great business location and the other supporting young Kent entrepreneurs.

At the Kent Foundation For Young Entrepreneurs event, an initiative backed by KCC, it was good to meet young people who have already set up in business, and as the 'mature' busi-

ness community we learned how we can support them more, including through mentoring. Indeed, IoD Kent complements the work of the Kent Foundation through the Kent Association Of Young Entrepreneurs.

Both initiatives explore ways of helping young people to succeed in business, but Kevin Lynes, KCC cabinet member for economic development and regeneration, said: "We must do more to encourage entrepreneurial activity."

At the Locate in Kent event, we learned how businesses can become 'business champions' to promote Kent as a "21st-century location to live and work". I can endorse this; I love living and working in Kent, but we all need to champion why it's so good to be in Kent in our business dealings.

There is plenty of other business support; however, I do recognise that many companies are confused about the business support offerings in Kent.

Are you aware, for example, that you

can receive a subsidy to take on an apprentice? Did you know the Government recently launched the National Export Challenge via UK Trade & Investment supporting the SME sector (small and medium-sized enterprises) to trade internationally?

You may have heard of Enterprise Europe Network or various European initiatives, including 2 Seas Trade, but how do you access these to help your business?

KCC has recognised Kent's business-support needs to be more coherent. So, at the Kent 2020 Exhibition in April, you can learn all about the Backing Kent Business initiative, as well as the launch of Kent International Business.

These are backed by stakeholders and partners including IoD Kent through the International Business Forum, sponsored by HSBC, Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Locate in Kent, BSK-CiC (Business Support Kent), UK Trade & Investment and universities.

In March, we saw David Cameron and Barack Obama accentuating the positive in the UK-US relationship and we must capitalise on this for our UK-US business dealings. Indeed, in September 2012, KCC's international team is leading a trade mission to Virginia and Boston, which you could take part in.

I strongly believe that we can help ourselves by taking positive actions, adopting a 'can-do' attitude and a greater sense of collaboration.

That way, we won't have to try to interpret economic data – we can create our own economic data and all help to ensure the economic health, wealth and success of the people of 'Kent plc'.



## Numbers add up for charity that takes on accountancy firm to balance books

CREASEYS, the Tunbridge Wells accountancy firm, has been appointed as auditor to the charity Compaid.

The Paddock Wood group, which celebrated its 25th anniversary last year, supports disabled people by both getting them involved with computers and providing much-needed transport solutions.

Compaid offers a range of practical services, using information technology and other resources, to enable disabled adults and children in and around Kent to maximise their social, creative, learning and employment opportunities.

Creaseys has many years of experience of acting for registered charities and not-for-profit organisations and understands the culture and aims of such groups.

"We were delighted to have been

appointed as Compaid's auditor," said Roger Ward, heads of the Creaseys charities unit.

"We work with a variety of charities and it's nice to develop a partnership with one so close to our offices."

Stephen Elsdon, chief executive of Compaid, said: "Creaseys is well respected locally, but it also has good national and international reach, and that particularly attracted us."

Mr Ward said his experience of handling assignments in the voluntary sector enabled him to adopt an approach he considered essential to modern accountancy – the ability to listen to and understand clients' wants and to care for their needs.

He said: "We are looking forward to working with Compaid and supporting them in the important work they do."

## Web-developer after Collabor8tors who need help to get their message across

CHATHAM web-developer Netsite is on the hunt for organisations, particularly 'not-for-profit' groups and charities, to pioneer the use of online communities that allow people to communicate and collaborate.

Netsite, established 14 years ago, has already worked successfully with NHS South East Coast and NHS West Kent on projects such as the Learning Network and Healthy Passport Club.

Now the Netsite team wants to encourage charities to try out a new application called Collabor8tor that can bring a range of benefits in a cost-effective way.

Managing director Paul Duthoit said: "We are willing to work with organisations with a limited budget and, in the early days for pioneers, only make a charge to cover our costs, in

order to spread the word about Collabor8tor. For instance, housing associations wanting to set up an online community would find the tool really useful to enable residents to communicate, discuss, learn and share information quickly and easily.

"It is called managed social/ collaborative networking – we are creating a platform with controlled access that enables groups of employees and customers to collaborate and improve services."

www.netsite.co.uk offers a range of services from bespoke website design through to content-managed e-recruitment systems.

The company has clients including the NHS, Rochester Avionic Archives, Crewsaver and The Historic Dockyard Chatham.

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# 'Policies ride roughshod over Coalition's green credentials'

By Nick Ames

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

THE Government's stated commitment to protecting the environment has been exposed as a sham by the Budget, say campaigners who highlight "an economic path which locks us into unsustainable, high-carbon, short-term growth".

They say that many parts of Kent have been put under severe threat by policies put forward by Chancellor George Osborne in his 2012 statement.

Proposals to expand airport capacity in the South East – including the possibility of an environmentally-damaging hub in the Thames estuary – have also come under fire.

Martin Harper, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) conservation director, said: "George Osborne's plan for growth clearly involves building more infrastructure, more roads and more runways, but this must be compatible with the green economy we have been promised so many times by this government."

"In the autumn statement last year, Mr Osborne set out a plan for short-sighted economic growth based on the mistaken belief that environmental protection is a burden on business."

"In his Budget speech he has continued to commit us to that path, locking us into an unsustainable economic plan that fails to take into account the very real value of our wildlife and countryside."

The RSPB added that environmental safeguards in no way hindered positive economic development.

Steve Gilbert, conservation programme manager for RSPB South East, said: "As a result of safeguards such as the Habitats Regulations, developers, planners and conservationists have worked together to find creative



**FLIGHT OF FANCY?** The Government has said that plans for a giant airport in the wildlife-rich Thames estuary are to be considered in its review of aviation policy

solutions to development that could otherwise potentially damage protected areas.

"Under the Habitats Regulations a major new port development, London Gateway, is taking place in the middle of the Thames while safeguarding the area's incredible and heavily-protected wildlife."

"Our government has pledged to halt biodiversity loss by the end of the decade and has also set itself tough targets on carbon emissions."

"Any proposals that would allow an airport to be built on the wildlife-rich mudflats of north Kent would blast a hole through these promises."

"The area is home to hundreds of thousands of wintering wetland birds and enjoys the highest level of legal protection available."

"It is of global environmental significance, a fact that has helped see off several previous proposals for airports in the area. The Government's own groundbreaking Natural Ecosystems Assessment unveiled last year highlighted the economic importance of green spaces and wildlife-rich sites like the Thames estuary."

"Politicians have promised us a new 'green economy' so many times that some of us even started believing it."

"We agree that development is necessary if the UK is to remain competitive, we agree that our economy needs to grow to enable all of us to prosper. But this must not happen at the cost of our environment."

The Government is to release full details of its review of the Habitats Regulations – the

most important system of protection for wildlife-rich habitat – and this week unveiled reform of the planning system.

Jamie Weir, of CPRE Protect Kent, said: "Despite initially snubbing the idea of increased airport capacity in the South East, the Government seems to have now done a U-turn on it."

"If airports within the UK better allocate their slots and utilise smart-hubbing, we can avoid an unnecessary and costly development that is unlikely to bring economic prosperity yet could destroy a huge amount of our countryside."

"The idea that we must build a new airport in the South East is incredibly short-sighted and fails to take account of the powerful arguments we have for not developing any new aviation capacity."

## Do you dread the PowerPoint call?

A NEW concept in visual presentation for business is being pioneered by a Maidstone company.

Vidoons says it provides an alternative to traditional slide-show-orientated company gatherings as well as offering multi-media opportunities to firms.

"We're on a mission to save the world from death by PowerPoint," says the company's promotional literature.

The company creates animations, caricatures and cartoons which can form part of slide-shows, along with video, music and voice-overs.

These can be used for presentations, websites and videos.

The company says its service is unique – so a new word had to be coined to describe it.

Vidoons is the brainchild of Patrick Blower, a cartoonist who has drawn for The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian and the London Evening Standard, and former BBC producer and film-maker Graham Majin.

The company put its videos online to attract its initial trade.

"There's nothing quite like what we do anywhere in the world," said Mr Blower.

"Vidoons – a mixture of video and cartooning is unique – so we had to invent a new word."

A Vidoon posted on YouTube recently gained 60,000 hits in just a few months and law firms, universities, environmental organisations and the London Philharmonic Orchestra are among its clients.

### ACCORDING TO VIDOONS...

- A survey found that 33 per cent of respondents dreaded creating a presentation while 29 per cent dreaded sitting through one.
- Twenty per cent said they would prefer going to the dentist.
- A political party, the Anti-PowerPoint Party, has been formed in Switzerland to ban PowerPoint, which, it claims, wastes more than £200 billion a year by taking people away from 'real work'.

"We're putting the story-telling back into people's presentations" said Majin.

"It doesn't matter whether the presentation is about a company's sales figures, their new IT system, or about how they're trying to reduce carbon emissions."

"We all love cartoons and we all love to hear a story: Vidoons turn presentations into stories."

"Your audience sees something start to appear and they're irresistibly drawn into it. It's a visual journey."

At the moment some 50 per cent of the company's business is coming from the US, with New York-based not-for-profit inspirational speaking organisation TED – which works with people such as Bill Clinton, Al Gore and Bill Gates – among its latest clients.

"I'd say at least 50 per cent of enquires come from the US" said Majin.

"I think it's because the US has a more extrovert culture. They expect higher levels of showmanship and communication in all walks of life and that includes business presentations. Show-and-tell is a big part of their childhood experience."

"We're very comfortable working for global customers. The Government says it wants to make the UK a global-innovation hub, with a specific focus on the digital-creative sector."

"We're happy to be part of that."

"It's great to think of people around the world using Vidoons in their presentations. Anything that makes the world's presentations less tedious and more fun has got to be a good thing."

## 'End is nigh' for our arcades after Budget changes the game

AMUSEMENT arcades could be forced to close by new regulations introduced in the Budget concerning tax on gaming machines.

Arcade machines will be subjected to Machine Games Duty introduced on gross profits and set at two rates: 20 per cent, and 5 per cent for machines with very low prizes.

The amusements, traditionally called 'one-armed bandits', have long been a feature of the Kent seaside resort – but the industry has been struggling to maintain momentum for years.

Arcade trade association BACTA says it is hugely alarmed at these rates, having repeatedly told the Treasury that rates of anything above 15 per cent and 3 per cent will cripple the industry and cause many closures.

Derek Petrie, president of BACTA, said:

"The end for many amusement arcades is nigh. Despite hundreds of small-business-owners warning politicians for 18 months now of the danger that Machine Games Duty would present to our industry, Chancellor George Osborne has failed to listen."

"The rates that the minister has proposed for his new tax on arcades are simply too high and will result in another cruel wave of closures on the seaside."

"It is inconceivable that a Government supposedly committed to small business and to tourism has made this decision – 300 arcades and 1,000 jobs have already gone."

"Now more will follow."



LOW EBB: Margate seafront could decline further

## Training, courses and careers

### Students showing off forensic skills

FORENSIC science students from Canterbury College have been using their skills to investigate cars involved in road traffic collisions.

Year 2 BTEC students gathered forensic evidence from a vehicle involved in a serious collision when they visited Copart vehicle salvage yard in Sandwich.

They examined the vehicle to find clues which told the story of how it crashed.

The session helped them learn how traffic accident investigators use scientific investigative techniques to reconstruct the events leading to accidents.

It was the first time forensic science students had been able to put themselves in the shoes of traffic accident investigators.

Tutor Trevor Boddy said: "The visit allowed the students to complete their studies regarding road traffic collision investigation. Without such a visit it would have been difficult for them to get the understanding they need to pass."

Forensic investigation students at Canterbury College work with industry experts and go on various trips to broaden their knowledge.

Recently, students learned about crime scene investigation when Kent Police forensic specialists held a class at the college.

For more on forensic science at the college, go to [www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/science](http://www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/science).

### Bluewater lesson in product display

SHEPPEY students visited John Lewis Blue-water for a masterclass in creating eye-catching product displays.

The department store is supporting students studying for a BTEC first diploma in business, retail and fashion marketing level 2 to apply academic theory to practical situations.

Staff from visual merchandise team, who are responsible for creating displays in the shop, shared their knowledge on how to prepare, plan and install displays, using that season's key fashion and home trends.

Students also had a behind-the-scenes visit to the visual merchandising studio and workshop to see the team at work, followed by a practical session where they made their own designs.

Lecturer Anne Minett said: "Our visit to John Lewis was truly inspirational for the students and proved that 'seeing really is believing'."

"Whilst this is taught in college, students really benefit from hearing this and experiencing service standards expected in the workplace from major employers and especially from a department store with a reputation for the highest standard of customer service."

# Apprentices' chance to put best foot forward

YOUNG people across Kent and Medway interested in a career in health and social care are being invited to join Medway Community Healthcare as an apprentice.

Successful applicants will undertake an apprenticeship that will combine studying towards a diploma in business administration, or health and social care, with working at Medway Community Healthcare, which provides a range of NHS community health services for adults and children.

It also supplies specialist, urgent, and out-of-hours services.

Helen Cunningham, human resources and organisational development director,

said: "As an apprentice you can get your career off to a great start."

"Not only will you gain valuable experience in a full-time job but also study towards a recognised vocational qualification, a technical certificate, functional skills in English and maths, and complete a range of in-house training programmes – all of which are fully funded."

No experience is necessary to apply for an apprenticeship as all training is offered as part of the scheme.

Since the Medway Community Healthcare apprenticeship scheme began in April, 2010, 10 students have completed apprenticeships.

Of those who have completed their apprenticeship, six now have permanent jobs with Medway Community Healthcare in teams including dental, nutrition and dietetics and human resources. The remaining

apprentices have gained places at university or gone into other areas of employment, including the British Army.

Former apprentice Liz Emery, 21, completed her apprenticeship in April 2011 and now works in the practice development team.

She has been part of the interview panel for new apprenticeships, and said: "The apprenticeship gave me everything I wanted. I was able to earn a wage while studying and developing new skills and the experience I gained helped me to secure a permanent job."

Apprentices can choose to study towards an ad-

vanced apprenticeship in health and social care in either respiratory or podiatry (foot) care which will involve working with patients and clinical staff, as well as offering administrative support to the team.

The apprenticeships take 18 months and involve visiting patients at home to provide care, information and advice.

A 12-month administration apprenticeship is also available in the podiatry service. This role will involve a full range of administrative tasks including liaising with patients and staff; organising appointments; dealing with enquiries; and maintaining accurate records.

Apprentices earn £97.50 a week. The closing date for applications is Monday, April 16. To apply visit <https://apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk/navms/forms/candidate/Apprenticeships.aspx>.



**OPPORTUNITY:** Medway Community Healthcare is looking to take on new apprentices

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk) or call us on 01303 817136.

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# Student chef cooks up a storm to win prestigious French competition

THANET College student Joe Gray, who is studying to be a chef, has won the prestigious Auguste Escoffier Foundation cooking competition.

Joe, 19, from Deal, studies Professional Chef Level 3 at the college. Four colleges from the South East were teamed up with French colleges, and students worked in pairs to cook the same two-course meal in three hours.

Thanet College was teamed with Lycée Francis de Croisset, in Grasse, and Joe worked with stu-

dent Sonia Gomes on their dish.

He cooked the main meal of sea bass Cleopatra with stuffed courgette flowers and saffron potatoes, while Sonia made the dessert of lemon tulle.

The judges, including top French chefs, praised Joe's classical interpretation of the dish, describing his food as "faultless".

Roger Phillips, programme area manager for catering and hospitality, said: "This is a first-rate competition with the opportunity for French and Eng-

lish students to work together.

"Joe represented the college exceptionally well and had an excellent result. It's an experience he'll never forget."

Chef tutor Steve Kendall mentored Joe, and said: "His classical approach to the dish was the right approach to take."

Joe said he enjoyed competing, and added: "Working under such immense pressure as well as having the language barrier was difficult, but a great experience."



**SCHOOL DAYS:** The Countess of Wessex helped her old school celebrate its 125th anniversary

## Royal old girl gets in on the act

PUPILS and staff at Kent College Pembury welcomed back old girl the Countess of Wessex last week.

The college is celebrating its 125th anniversary year and Sophie officially re-opened the college theatre which has been re-named the Countess of Wessex Theatre following its refurbishment a year after it was damaged in a fire.

The countess, who attended the girls' school in Pembury from 1976-81, said she was delighted to return and commented on the happy years she had at the school.

Sophie had the opportunity to meet and chat

with girls in the prep and senior school who proudly cheered and waved windmills to mark occasion.

Pupils treated the countess to an excerpt of the school's theatre production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, before announcing the official re-opening of the Countess of Wessex Theatre.

Students also released 125 balloons to mark the occasion and to celebrate the school's 125th anniversary.

During her visit, Sophie enjoyed an informal lunch with some of her former teachers – who even brought along some of her old school books.

## Grammar pupils celebrating after winning places at top universities

EIGHT Maidstone Grammar School students are celebrating after being offered places at three of the world's top seats of learning – University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, and Harvard University in America.

They will all start their degree courses in September.

Deputy headmaster Paul Smith said he was absolutely delighted the students' talents had been recognised by such

prestigious universities.

He said: "Rob Ledniczky is the first student in the school's 460 year history to win a place at Harvard and the number of offers students have received from Oxford and Cambridge is the best we have achieved for over 10 years."

The successful students are: Alec Cunningham (University of Cambridge – law); Robert Ledniczky (Harvard University

– liberal arts); Thomas Kingston (University of Cambridge – mathematics); Joshua Mustill (University of Cambridge – economics); Toby Abbott (University of Oxford – history and politics); Philip Burgess (University of Cambridge – economics); Emily Chadwick (University of Cambridge – modern and medieval languages); Alexander Brown (University of Cambridge – natural sciences).

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Closing date for applications is Tuesday 10th April

Unfortunately we will be unable to reply to those we have not shortlisted for interview.

Successful candidates will be contacted by Thursday April 12th interviews will be held on Tuesday April 17th.

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Closing date for applications is Tuesday 10th April

Unfortunately we will be unable to reply to those we have not shortlisted for interview.

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[b.knott@ksp-uk.com](mailto:b.knott@ksp-uk.com) or ring Babs Knott**  
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St John's Catholic Comprehensive School  
Rochester Road  
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**HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford****PLUMPTON & GREEN LANE, BRABOURNE  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of the installation of a new electricity supply cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plumpton & Green Lane, Brabourne, on or after 17 April 2012 for up to 18 weeks.

**PLUMPTON** will be closed in phases from the junction with Hampton Lane, working towards Manor Pound Lane.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Hampton Lane, Canterbury Road, Bulltown Lane and Green Lane. Signage in Quarrington Lane will indicate which direction traffic can travel when it reaches Plumpton.

**GREEN LANE** will then be closed between the junctions with Plumpton and Manor Pound Lane.

The alternative route is via Bulltown Lane, Brabourne Road and Weekes Lane

The progress of the works will depend on weather and ground conditions, and the specific sections of road to be closed will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury****CASTLE ROAD & KINGSDOWN PARK, WHITSTABLE  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of sewer relining works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Castle Road & Kingsdown Park, Whitstable, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

**Castle Road** will be closed to the north of the junction with Northwood Road.

The northern section of **Kingsdown Park** will be closed at its eastern junction near Kingsdown Lodge, with access maintained from Northwood Road up to the point of closure.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Tankerton Road, the southern section of Kingsdown Park and Northwood Road.

There will be temporary traffic lights at the junction of Castle Road, Northwood Road and Kingsdown Park.

**CHURCH LANE AND HIGHSTEAD, CHISLET  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To enable high-friction road surfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Lane and Highstead, Chislehurst, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 days, as signposted on site.

**CHURCH LANE** will be closed to the north of the north junction with Chitty Lane

The alternative route is via Hollow Road and Old Tree Road.

**HIGHSTEAD** will be closed to the north of Highstead Farm.

The alternative route is via Highstead via Ford Hill, Maypole Lane and Old Tree Road.

The closures are between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm each day. Only one road will be closed at any one time.

**LONDON ROAD, CANTERBURY  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to replace the high-friction carriageway surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on London Road, Canterbury, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00 pm and midnight each night.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the zebra crossing, near the junction with the A290 St Dunstan's Street / Whitstable Road.

The alternative routes are

**Eastbound** via Rheims Way, St Peter's Place, North Lane, Station Road West and St Dunstan's Street

**Westbound** via A290 Whitstable Road, St Thomas Hill, Rough Common Road, Palmers Cross Hill, A2050 Harbledown By-pass and London Road.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford****COLLER CRESCENT, DARENTH-  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or

near the highway the Kent County Council has intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Collier Crescent, Darenth from Langlands Drive for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 20th April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week from the hours of 08:00hrs - 17:00hrs. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Carriageway micro surfacing works.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Dover****GLEN ROAD, KINGSDOWN, DEAL  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway pre-patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Glen Road, Kingsdown, Deal, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Carlton Road and Sea Road.

The alternative route is via Carlton Road, Edward Road and Sea Road.

**HIGHWAYS - East Kent****VARIOUS ROADS, EAST KENT (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow maintenance works to be carried out in safety on high speed roads, Kent County Council has made an Order imposing a temporary mandatory speed limit of 50 mph on the dual carriageway roads shown below, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 1 year.

The roads affected are as shown below.

**A299 THANET WAY** - from the M2 Brenley Corner Roundabout to B2190 Minster Road roundabout

**A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, THANET** - from the A299 Thanet Way to Seamark Road, Birchington

**A256 DOVER ROAD** - from the junction with the A2 to the Dover Road roundabout

**A256 SANDWICH BYPASS** - from Stoner Cut Bridge to the A257 Sandwich Road Roundabout

**LYDDEN HILL, LYDDEN, DOVER** - from the junction with Swanton Lane to the junction with the A2

**A2042 ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, ASHFORD**

- From the A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road to Roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres from the Forestall Meadow Roundabout
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres south of the roundabout with the B2229 Norman Road

**A20 FOUGERES WAY, ASHFORD** - from the A20 Maidstone Road (Drivers Roundabout) to the roundabout at Junction 9 of the M20

**A20 MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD** - From Orchard Heights Roundabout to the junction with Sandyhurst Lane.

This Order is in force on the respective roads when the relevant speed limit signs are displayed on site.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham****DEAN LANE, MEOPHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic in Dean Lane, Meopham from Swift Farm.

The Order will become effective on 16th April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days.

These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: White Hill Road and Oakenden Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT openreach to gain safe access to telegraph pole.

**RAPHAEL ROAD, GRAVESEND-  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on

Raphael Road, Gravesend between its junction with Waterton Road and Denton Street.

The Order will become effective on 16th April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 7 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Range Road, Elliott Street, Lower Road, Mark Lane and Waterton Avenue

The purpose of the closure is to allow safe access to wet well.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks****BANK LANE, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Bank Lane outside property known as Hopefield.

The Order will become effective on 15th April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 16th April 2012 and will last for approx 5 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: London Road, Mill Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a new gas supply.

**DARTFORD ROAD, FARNINGHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has Made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Dartford Road, Farningham from the Junction of High Street to Junction Main Road.

The Order will become effective on 7th April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 7th April 2012 and will last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Main Road and High Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a replacement BT cable.

**MALTHOUSE ROAD, ASH CUM RIDLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Malthouse Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 2nd April 2012 and last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Pease Hill, Ash Lane, Hatcham Green Lane, Plaxtol Green Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a UK Power network cable.

**YORKS HILL, SUNDRIDGE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Yorks Hill, Sundridge between Ide Hill Road and Wheatshaf Hill.

The Order will become effective on 01 April 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 02 April 2012 and will last approx 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ide Hill Road and Wheatshaf Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electrical maintenance.

**VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS -  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF EASTBOUND TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting Eastbound vehicular traffic on Leydenhatch Lane and Newbarn Road Swanley for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 01 April 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 02 April 2012 and will last approx 25 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Birchwood Road, London Road, Bartholomew Road and Swanley Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a safer working environment for all highway users.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway****BANK STREET, HYTHE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bank Street, Hythe, on or after 16 April 2012 for up to 3 weeks.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Chapel Street and the High Street.

The alternative route is via A259 Prospect Road and High Street, which re-opens from 16 April 2012.

The Order prohibiting driving along High Street, Hythe between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm will be suspended, whilst Bank Street is closed.

**CASTLE HILL AVENUE, FOLKESTONE  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to connect a new water supply to a property re-development, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting southbound through traffic on Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 4 days, or until the works have been completed.

The southbound carriageway of the road will be closed between the junctions with Ingles Road and Bouverie Road West.

The alternative route is via Shorncliffe Road, Earls Avenue and Bouverie Road West.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Castle Hill Avenue will be suspended from the junction with Ingles Road to the point of closure, for access only.

**ST JOHN'S ROAD, NEW ROMNEY  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to install a new water meter and pipework, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St John's Road, New Romney, on or after 16 April 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with A259 Lydd Road.

The alternative route is via A259 Lydd Road and West Street.

For further information, please contact

Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,

on 08458 247 800 (local rate)

or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



## HIGHWAYS

## HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

**A2 HIGH STREET, NEWINGTON  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on the A2 High Street, Newington, from 2 April until 22 April 2012 inclusive, or until the works have been completed.

The A2 will be closed between the junctions with Playstool Road and Bull Lane.

The alternative motorway route is via A2 Keycol Hill, A249 Maidstone Road, M2 from Junction 5 to Junction 4, A278 Hoath Way, A2 London Road and A2 High Street.

The alternative route for non-motorway traffic is via A2 Keycol Hill, A249 Maidstone Road, Detling Hill, Sittingbourne Road, Bearsted Road, Penenden Heath Road, Sandling Lane, A229 Running Horse Roundabout, Chatham Road, Maidstone Road, A230 Horsted Way, Maidstone Road, A2 Best Street, Brookside, Union Street, New Road, Chatham Hill, Rainham Road, Watling Street, Sovereign Boulevard, Watling Street, London Road and High Street.

A 7.5 Tonne weight restriction (except for access) will be imposed on the following roads, when the relevant signage is in place:

Spade Lane, Mill Lane, Breach Lane, Lower Hartlip Hill, Playstool Road, Church Lane, Bull Lane, Callaways Lane and Rook Lane.

## HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

**EDGAR ROAD, MARGATE (RESTRICTIONS ON WAITING)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To enable carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order restricting waiting on Edgar Road, Margate, on or after 2 April 2012 for up to 2 days, or until the works have been completed.

Waiting will be prohibited between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm on the sections of Edgar Road as follows:

On the west side from the existing double yellow lines near the junction with Ethelbert Crescent to the existing double yellow lines outside St Paul's Church

On the east side from existing double yellow lines near the junction with Ethelbert Crescent to the existing double yellow lines outside number 35 (Surrey Court).

**STAFFORDSHIRE STREET, RAMSGATE  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repair works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Staffordshire Street, Ramsgate, on or after 16 April 2012 for up to 2 days, between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative routes are

**Northbound** via Turner Street, Broad Street and Hardres Street.

**Southbound** via Hardres Street, Belmont Street, King Street, Brunswick Street and Turner Street.

There will be no through access along Union Street.

**ST JOHN'S ROAD AND PRINCES CRESCENT, MARGATE  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on St John's Road and Princes Crescent, Margate, on or after 2 April 2012, as described below.

**ST JOHN'S ROAD** will be closed at the junction with Victoria Road from 2 April 2012 for a period of up to 2 weeks.

There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of St John's Road, between the junctions with Princes Crescent and Victoria Road' to allow traffic to exit via Princes Crescent.

**PRINCES CRESCENT** will then be closed at its northern junction with Victoria Road from 16 April 2012 for up to 2 weeks.

A One-way Traffic Order will be imposed in respect of Princes Crescent, so that traffic can only drive southbound towards Victoria Road.

The alternative route for northbound traffic is via St John's Road.

The timings of the phases are approximate guidelines, and may be affected by weather and ground conditions.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET)  
(SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2012**

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers has made an Order under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and 2(2), Sections 81 to 84 of and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, the effect of which has introduced reduced speed limits to be enforced on the approaches to the "Lord of the Manor" roundabouts, the circulatory carriageways and the link road between them, to 40 mph.

The length of the existing 40 mph speed limit on the A299 Canterbury Road East has been extended in a westerly direction from its current boundary adjacent to its junction with Windermere Avenue, to its southern roundabout junction with "Lord of the Manor"; and the length of the existing 40 mph speed limit on Sandwich Road has been extended in a north easterly direction from a point 23 metres north east of the mid point of its junction with Cliffs End Road to the southern roundabout at the junction commonly known as "Lord of the Manor".

Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd has been commissioned to work in partnership with the Kent County Council to progress the legal procedures necessary to implement the proposed measures.

A copy of the Order which shall come into operation on Monday 2nd April 2012, an explanatory statement and a plan showing the extents of the scheme can be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Thanet District Council Offices, PO Box 9, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ, and affected Parish and Town Councils which are: Cliffsend PC, Manston PC and Ramsgate TC.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

## HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge &amp; Malling

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is taking place on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on High Street, West Malling, between the entrance to the short stay car park (adj. 107 High Street) and the junction with Swan Street.

The Order will become effective on 22nd April 2012 for the dates shown in schedule 1 below, between the hours of 6.00am to 3.00pm or until the time stated next to that date. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place for the durations of the events. Access will be maintained at all times as much as is possible.

The alternative route for High Street, West Malling will be via A228 Ashton Way, A20 London Road and Town Hill.

The purpose of the Order is to enable the Farmers Market, the Christmas lights switch on and the Queens Diamond Jubilee celebrations to take place.

For further information please contact Kent County Council Highways & Transportation on 08458 247 800.

## Schedule 1

Sunday 22nd April 2012 (until 5.00pm)	Sunday 28rd October 2012
Sunday 29th April 2012 (until 5.00pm)	Sunday 25th November 2012 (until 8.00pm)
Sunday 27th May 2012	Sunday 16th December 2012
Sunday 4th June 2012 (until 6.00pm)	Sunday 23rd December 2012
Sunday 24th June 2012	Sunday 27th January 2013
Sunday 22nd July 2012	Sunday 24th February 2013
Sunday 26th August 2012	Sunday 24th March 2013
Sunday 23rd September 2012	

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(ROBIN HOOD LANE & TUNBURY AVENUE, AYLESFORD)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Robin Hood Lane between Fostington Way and Tunbury Avenue and to prevent traffic turning right into Tunbury Avenue from A2045 Walderslade Woods on or after

Tuesday 3rd April 2012 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for Robin Hood Lane is via Tunbury Avenue, A2045 Walderslade Woods, Fostington Way and for the no right turn into Tunbury Avenue is via A2045 Walderslade Woods to the roundabout and return on A2045 Walderslade Woods and turn left into Tunbury Avenue.

KCC Highways apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to facilitate planing, resurfacing and application of high friction surfacing and to install ducting in the carriageway. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Andy Padgham on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(SANDY LANE, IGHTHAM)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Sandy Lane from Ismays Road to Back Lane on or after Thursday 5th April 2012 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Back Lane, Ismays Road.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for polling works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Mandy Richards of Ashted Plant Hire Company Ltd on 03700 500792.

## HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(HIGHFIELD ROAD SOUTHBOROUGH)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)  
TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Highfield Road Southborough on or after Tuesday 3rd April 2012 when required for a period of up to 1 day off peak 09.30- 15.30 or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via upper Grosvenor Road, Meadow Road, Goods Station Road, Grosvenor Road, A26 St Johns Road A26 London Road Yew Tree Road and High Brooks and vice versa.

KCC highways and Transportation apologise for any inconvenience caused by the essential carriageway patching. Should you require any further information about these works, please contact Jonathan Dean on 08458 2470800.

John Burr  
Director Kent Highways  
Invicta House  
County Hall,  
Maidstone  
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 1st April 2012

For further information, please contact  
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,  
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



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WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991



SOUTH EAST WATER LIMITED  
REVISED TEMPORARY BAN ON WATER USE

South East Water gives notice that, pursuant to sections 76 and 76A-C of the Water Industry Act 1991, it prohibits from the beginning of 5 April 2012, throughout its entire area of supply (extending across parts of Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire), the following uses of potable water supplied by it (that is water treated to drinkable standards):

(a)	Watering a garden using a hosepipe
(b)	Cleaning a private motor-vehicle (or a trailer for such a vehicle) using a hosepipe
(c)	Watering plants on domestic or other non-commercial premises using a hosepipe
(d)	Cleaning a private leisure boat using a hosepipe
(e)	Filling or maintaining a domestic swimming or paddling pool
(f)	Drawing water, using a hosepipe, for domestic recreational use
(g)	Filling or maintaining a domestic pond (manmade or natural) using a hosepipe
(h)	Filling or maintaining an ornamental fountain (including a cascade or any other display of moving water, and includes filling by permanent plumbing)
(i)	Cleaning walls, or windows, of domestic premises using a hosepipe
(j)	Cleaning paths or patios using a hosepipe
(k)	Cleaning other artificial outdoor surfaces using a hosepipe

The following will be exempted from the restriction:

- i) using a hosepipe in a garden or for cleaning walls or windows of domestic premises, paths or patios, a private leisure boat or an artificial outdoor surface, where such use is necessary for health and safety reasons;
  - ii) watering a garden attached to a domestic dwelling or watering plants on domestic premises using a hosepipe, by people with severe mobility problems who hold a current Blue Badge as issued by their local authority;
  - iii) using a hosepipe to clean a private motor vehicle, private leisure boat or walls and windows of domestic premises, where this is done as a service to customers in the course of a business;
  - iv) using a hosepipe to water an area of grass or outdoor artificial surfaces used for sport or recreation, where this is required in connection with a national or international sports event;
  - v) drip or trickle irrigation watering systems, fitted with a pressure reducing valve and a timer, that are not handheld, that place water drip by drip directly onto the soil surface or beneath the soil surface, without any surface run off or dispersion of water through the air using a jet or mist;
  - vi) maintaining a domestic swimming pool with a water conservation recycling system;
- Customers should note that a number of concessions earlier proposed have been withdrawn.

For the meaning of certain terms used in this notice and specific exceptions from the prohibitions, see the Water Use (Temporary Bans) Order 2010. Amongst other things, that Order defines:

- (a) using a hosepipe to include both drawing water supplied by South East Water at the time of the prohibition through a hosepipe from a container and also filling or partly filling a container with such water by means of a hosepipe;
- (b) garden to include a park, gardens open to the public, a lawn, a grass verge, an area of grass used for sport or recreation, an allotment garden as defined in section 22(1) of the Allotments Act 1922, any area of allotment used for non-commercial purposes and any other green space; and
- (c) health and safety to include removing or minimising any risk to human or animal health or safety and preventing or controlling the spread of causative agents or disease.

The topping up of an established domestic pond is also permitted if the welfare of fish in the pond is at risk.

For the purposes of the prohibitions relating to the use of a hosepipe, the prohibitions apply whether or not any device such as a sprinkler is attached to the hosepipe.

Any person who contravenes any of these prohibitions is guilty of an offence, and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

Representations concerning any of these prohibitions may be made in writing by 4 April 2012 to Lee Dance at South East Water, Rocfort Road, Snodland, Kent ME6 5AH. If, as a result of such representations, South East Water decides to vary any terms of the prohibition, a further notice will be published. Subject to this, the prohibitions will have effect from the beginning of 5 April 2012 and will remain in force until further notice.

Further details concerning the prohibitions and actions concerning the current drought may be found on South East Water's website at [www.southeastwater.co.uk](http://www.southeastwater.co.uk)

South East Water Limited Rocfort Road Snodland Kent ME6 5AH

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003

Cave Direct Limited is applying for a new premises licence for Unit B10, Larkfield Trading Estate, New Hythe Lane, Larkfield, Kent, ME20 6SW.

The application is made to Tonbridge & Malling Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Kill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ.

I am applying for the following:

- (1) To pack boxes of beer between the hours of 7.00 and 17.00 to be sent to residential addresses.

Should you wish to make representations to the Council, it must be in writing and/or can view our application by contacting the council on 01732 876 368 or at [Licensing.services@tmhc.gov.uk](mailto:Licensing.services@tmhc.gov.uk) by 25.04.2012.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

WE, Vinay & Dharmista Patel are applying for a variation of premises licence at the S&G Ltd T/A Halling News of 18 High Street Halling Kent ME2 1BX

The application is made to Medway Council, Gun Wharf Dock Road Chatham Kent ME4 4TR. I am applying for the following (1) change of trading name (2) change of layout (3) Extension of the hours for the sale of alcohol (5am until 23:00)

Should wish to make representations to the Council it must be in writing and/or you can view our application by contacting the council on 01634 337 107 or 337 108 by 18th April 2012

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

Notice of an Application  
for the Grant of a Premises Licence  
(Licensing Act 2003)

Notice is hereby given that Bilsington Village Hall Committee has applied to **Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT of PREMISES LICENCE** for Sale of alcohol, plays, films and indoor sporting events, live and recorded music, dancing, Sunday to Thursday 0900-2300 Friday and Saturday 0900-0000 for the premises Bilsington Village Hall situated at Bilsington.

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

**Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 24th April 2012. Dated this 27th day of March 2012.**

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

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PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND  
CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

- 1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- 2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
- 3. The application is for a Major Development.
- 4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
- 6. This application may be of wider public interest.
- 7. This application will affect trees covered by a tree preservation order

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE  
FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE  
BY 16 APRIL 2012

SW/07/1248:  
Demolition of existing light industrial workshop and erection of a dwelling - 36- 37 St Johns Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0144:  
Two storey side extension and internal alterations - 7 Muddy Lane, SITTINGBOURNE, **REASON 4**

SW/12/0252:  
Listed Building Consent to demolish part of courtyard wall and to rebuild to match existing - ACF & ATC Cadets Building, Stone Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/0287:  
Extended balconies and new conservatories - 22 Waterside Close, Upper Brents, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0328:  
Install 3 additional ventilation louvres and enlarge 2 existing louvers - Boughton Telephone Exchange, The Street, BOUGHTON, **REASON 1**

SW/12/0334:  
Change of use from private stables to stud & livery farm including erection of 3 foaling boxes, static mobile unit and provision of parking and turning - Oastfield Stud + Livery, Track off Holywell Lane, UPCHURCH; **REASON 3**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman  
Head of Planning

To place your notice  
here call the  
Kent Public Notice  
team on  
**01303 817044**

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY &amp; VILLAGE GREENS

**PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD****NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH AE644 IN THE PARISHES OF BILSINGTON AND BONNINGTON**

**(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AE644)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1)  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath AE644 between Bilsington Bridge and Bonnington Bridge from the 23rd March 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 23rd April 2012.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it to repair a collapsed culvert and there is a likelihood of danger to path users.

The alternative route is to head north from Bilsington Bridge and turn right onto the B2067, continue for approximately 1.0 kilometre to the Bonnington Road junction, turn right down Bonnington Road to Bonnington Bridge

For detailed enquiries please contact: Melvyn Twycross

**NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER**

**HIGHWAYS ACT 1980  
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AU58A ASHFORD)  
PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT AND DEFINITIVE MAP  
AND STATEMENT  
MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

On 21st February 2012 The Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to extinguish the entire width of that length of Public Footpath numbered AU58a which commences between number 38 and 40a Silver Hill Road (NGR TR 0333 4240) (Point A) and runs in a west south-westerly direction for 61 metres to NGR TR 0327 4238 (Point B), the route then turns in a south-westerly direction for 106 metres to its termination at the M20 motorway (NGR TR 0320 4230) (Point C). Between points A,B and C on the Order plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of the Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, TN23 1AS or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 21st March 2012, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways

Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 1st April 2012, make an application to the High Court.

**PROW - IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY****NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER**

**HIGHWAYS ACT 1980  
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981**

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH CB432 & CB442 (PART) PETHAM)  
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT  
MODIFICATION ORDER 2011**

On 21st February 2012 The Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to divert the entire width of (a) that length of public footpath numbered CB432 which commences at NGR TR 1225 5122 (Point A) on the Order plan, and runs in a south south-easterly direction for 198 metres to NGR TR 1231 5103 (Point B), the route then turns in a south-easterly direction for 45 metres to NGR TR 1235 5101 (Point C) where Public Footpath CB432 meets Public Footpath CB442;

And (b) that length of public footpath numbered CB442 which commences at NGR TR 1225 5099 (Point D) and continues in an east north-easterly direction for 97 metres to NGR TR 1235 5101 (Point C); and that length of public footpath CB432 which commences at NGR TR 1235 5101 (Point C) and continues in a south easterly direction for 12 metres to NGR TR 1236 5100 (Point E). Between points A-B-C-D-E on the Order plan.

And to provide a new length of (a) public footpath numbered CB432 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TR 1225 5122 (Point A) and runs in a southerly direction for 236 metres to NGR TR 1225 5099 (Point D);

And a new length of (b) public footpath numbered CB442 with a width of 2.0 metres which commences at NGR TR 1225 5099 (Point D) and continues in a south-easterly direction for 72 metres to NGR TR 1231 5094 (Point F). Between points A-D-F on the Order plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

The Order comes into force on 21st March 2012, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the

ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 1st April 2012, make an application to the High Court.

**PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS****NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR154 IN THE PARISH OF SEAL**

**PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR154  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1),  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath SR154, between the eastern end of Green Lane NGR TQ 559 518 and the junction with Underriver House Road from the 16th April 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 16th October 2012.

The path is to be closed because a depot associated with the pipeline construction is to be located on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Nicky Biddall

**NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE RESTRICTED BYWAY SR286 IN THE PARISHES OF SEVENOAKS WEALD & SEAL**

**RESTRICTED BYWAY SR286  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1),  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Restricted Byway SR286, between The Coach House, Underriver (NGR TQ 550 524) and the junction with Public Footpath SR287 (NGR TQ 547 516) from the 16th April 2012.

The route will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 16th October 2012.

The route will be closed because works to excavate and build a pipeline are planned on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Nicky Biddall

**PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING****NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS MR392, MT15, MT17A, MT16, AND PUBLIC BRIDLEWAYS, MT49 AND MT50**

**IN THE PARISH OF SHIPBOURNE**

**PUBLIC FOOTPATHS MR392, MT15, MT17A, MT16 AND PUBLIC BRIDLEWAYS MT49 AND MT50  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1),  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpaths MR392 at NGR TQ 578 517, MT15 at NGR TQ 583 512, MT17A at NGR TQ 583 512, MT16 at NGR TQ 588 511, and Public Bridleways MT49 at NGR TQ 583 509 and MT50 at NGR TQ 589 509 from 16th April 2012

The Routes will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The Routes will be closed because works are planned on them and there is a likelihood of danger to users

Alternative routes will be signed for the duration of the works.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michele Snoding

Countryside Access Service  
Kent County Council  
Invicta House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 1XX

Dated: 1st April 2012

*This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.*

For further information, please contact  
**Kent Countryside Access Service,**  
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess](http://www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess)



## MARRIAGE LICENCES

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND  
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004  
APPROVED PREMISES FOR  
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Black Horse Inn, Pilgrims Way, Thurnham, Maidstone**

Applicant: **John Freeman**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley  
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives  
Kent History and Library Centre  
James Whatman Way  
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND  
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004  
APPROVED PREMISES FOR  
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **St Augustines Priory, Priory Road, Bilsington**

Applicant: **Elizabeth Lawson**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley  
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives  
Kent History and Library Centre  
James Whatman Way  
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND  
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004  
APPROVED PREMISES FOR  
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Grand, The Leas, Folkestone**

Applicant: **Michael Stainer**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley  
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives  
Kent History and Library Centre  
James Whatman Way  
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL  
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND  
CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004  
APPROVED PREMISES FOR  
CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Best Western Donnington Manor Hotel, London Road, Duntun Green**

Applicant: **Ronnie Cherian**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley  
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives  
Kent History and Library Centre  
James Whatman Way  
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ



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**Town and Country Planning Acts**  
The Council is required to give notice of the following applications  
**12/00714/HOUSE Ryecroft Chapel Lane, Benenden**  
- Removal of conservatory and replace with sun room (LB) (CA)  
**12/00717/LBC Ryecroft Chapel Lane, Benenden**  
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of conservatory and replace with sun room (LB)  
**12/00807/FUL Gate House Farm Fairmans Lane, Brenchley**  
- Erection of stables and horsewalker and change of use of existing agricultural buildings to equine for domestic and commercial use (PROW)  
**12/00834/FUL Garbos 1 - 3 Lime Hill Road, Culverden**  
- Change of use of ground floor from A1 (hairdressing salon) to A3 (cafe) (CA)  
**12/00816/FUL Pearsons Cottage/Oakleaves Cottage Cranbrook Road, Frittenden**  
- Alterations to both cottages to form one dwelling (LB) (LB)  
**11/03707/LBC Bushes Farmhouse Churn Lane, Horsmonden**  
- Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to create new shower room (LB)  
**12/00688/HOUSE The Barn Hook Green Farm, Lamberhurst**  
- Installation of rectangular window in side elevation of annexe (LB)  
**12/00720/HOUSE 3 Berkeley Place Berkeley Road, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Parking area to courtyard (LB) (CA)  
**12/00721/LBC 3 Berkeley Place Berkeley Road, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Listed Building Consent: Parking area to courtyard (LB)  
**12/00773/HOUSE 552 Warwick Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Replace existing 11.500m section of close boarded boundary fencing fronting onto Warwick Park with new metal railings to match the existing front entrance gates (CA)  
**12/00799/CEU India Lane 70 Mount Pleasant Road, Park**  
- Lawful Development Certificate (Existing) - Use of basement and first floor rooms for retail ancillary storage (CA)  
**12/00839/CAC Abbeyfield Society Ltd Abbeyfield House, Park**  
- Conservation Area Consent: Demolition of existing garage (CA)  
**12/00780/LBC Chapel Pembury Hospital, Pembury**  
- Listed Building Consent - Remove the pews and organ from the chapel (LB)  
**12/00815/LBC Rammell House Cranbrook School The Hill, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**  
- Listed Building Consent: Removal of existing roof materials (Peg tiles, slate, plain clay tiles and lead), timber battening and weathering. Replace with breather membrane, tanalised battens and Peg tiles, slate, plain clay tiles and lead. Repair works to chimney (LB)  
**12/00817/FUL Wyndhurst The Street, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**  
- Sub-division of existing dwelling to form two separate dwellings with separate parking and amenity areas (CA)  
**12/00829/FUL Cramp Institute High Street, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**  
- Disabled ramp to front entrance (LB) (CA)  
(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.  
You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells.  
We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.  
You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.  
Jim Kehoe  
Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS  
Dated: 31 March 2012



**THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Town and Country Planning Act**  
**Notice of Applications**  
**MA/11/2101/S - LAND AT, FOREST HILL, TOVIL, KENT - Outline planning permission for the erection of fourteen zero Carbon Houses with access, layout, scale and appearance to be considered at this stage and all other matters reserved for future consideration. Reason: 6**  
**MA/11/2190/N - PILGRIMS RETREAT, HOGBARN LANE, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1NZ - Variation of condition 2 of permission MA/03/2343 (extension of the holiday park's season from 8 months to 10 months) to allow the use of touring caravans, tents and static caravans for holiday purposes all year round (excluding the 18 permitted residential static caravans) as shown on A4 site location plan received on 22nd December 2011. Reason: 9**  
**MA/12/0185/S - TEASAUCER STABLES, BOCKINGFORD LANE, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DP - Proposed construction of a replacement grass surfaced trackway approximately 55 metres in length and 2.5 metres in width, reinforced with a recycled polyethylene grid. Reason: 2**  
**MA/12/0315/S - HOMEWELL BARN, NORTON ROAD, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3LS - Erection of a replacement garage to be used as a play room. Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0341/S - UNIT 15 WHEELBARROW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PATTENDEN LANE, MARDEN, KENT - An application for minor material amendments to MA/08/2439 to surface water drainage and landscaping. Reason: 6**  
**MA/12/0360/S - THE BARN, HEADCORN ROAD, GRAFTY GREEN, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2AP - Listed Building Consent for relocation of staircase and minor alterations to floor layouts. Reason: 3**  
**MA/12/0437/S - CLIFF HOUSE, CLIFF HILL, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4NQ - Erection of a detached double garage. Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0439/N - 261, WILLINGTON STREET, MAIDSTONE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8EP - Erection of a one bedroom annexe building. Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0441/N - THE LODGE, LENHAM COURT, OLD HAM LANE, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2LS - An application for a new planning permission to replace an extant planning permission MA/09/0467 (loft conversion including the installation of two dormer windows and erection of detached double garage (resubmission of MA/08/1273)) to allow a further three years in which to implement the development. Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0444/N - BYFRANCE, OTHAM LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 8SJ - Erection of a triple bay cartlodge (alternative to garage approved under MA/05/1282). Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0447/S - SCUFFITS, WATER LANE, HUNTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 OSG - Erection of single storey garden room extension and raised flagstone patio area. Reason: 1**  
**MA/12/0476/N - THE FLOWER POT, 96, SANDLING ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 2RJ - Listed building consent for removal of internal stud walls and w.c. Reason: 3**  
**Reasons for advertisement key:**  
**1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.**  
**2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.**  
**3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.**  
**6 - Application is Major Development.**  
**9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.**  
Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **15th April 2012**, quoting the application number.  
**Rob Jarman**, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 1st April 2012




PLANNING


Planning applications



**Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995**  
**Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990**  
**Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**  
**Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004**  
The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:  
**CA/11/02109/FUL: 4-5 Pound Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2BZ** Use of land to provide outdoor seating area in connection with restaurant. **Applicant: Mr Betham** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00069/FUL: 2 Burgate Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2HH** The insertion of fixed sash window with lower panel obscured to rear elevation (Retrospective application). **Applicant: Mrs Mirtorabi** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00104/ADV: Habitat Designs Limited, St Andrews Close, Canterbury, CT1 2RL** Two non-illuminated wall-mounted signs. **Applicant: 99p Stores Ltd** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.  
**CA/12/00165/ADV: 14 Butchery Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2JR** Non-illuminated fascia sign and externally illuminated hanging sign. **Applicant: Optical Express** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00179/FUL: Little Breach Farm, Elham Valley Road, Barham, CT4 6LN** Construction of pond for wildlife. **Applicant: Mr Thurley** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.  
**CA/12/00185/FUL: Newnham Farmhouse, Grove Road, Wickhambreau, CT3 1SQ** Erection of orangery to rear and replacement windows to dwelling, erection of swimming pool house, stable block and replacement carport with accommodation over and reconstruction of barn. **Applicant: Mr Butcher** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.  
**CA/12/00186/LB: Newnham Farmhouse, Grove Road, Wickhambreau, CT3 1SQ** Erection of orangery to rear, replacement windows and internal alterations to dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Butcher** Reason: Work to a listed building.  
**CA/12/00207/FUL: 10 Nelson Road, Whitstable, CT5 1DP** Replacement of hardstanding with permeable block paving. **Applicant: Mr P Bell** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00250/FUL: 7 and 8 All Saints Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2AU** First-floor rear extension to No 7 and insertion of rooflight to replace first-floor flank window in No 8. **Applicant: Ms J Burgis and Mrs H Chappell** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.  
**CA/12/00289/VAR: 16-18 Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DD** Variation of condition 02 (approved drawings); alterations in respect of disabled access and siting of plant and machinery and condition 06 (materials) of planning permission CA/10/01526/FUL (Retrospective application) **Applicant: J D Wetherspoon PLC** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00349/FUL: Kenfield House, Kenfield Road, Petham, CT4 5RN** Alterations to front boundary wall, fence and gates to facilitate new vehicular access. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Henderson** Reason: Setting listed building in conservation area.  
**CA/12/00352/FUL: Land adjacent to The Prince Albert PH, Sea Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AN** Erection of two-storey dwelling incorporating accommodation in the roof space. **Applicant: Mr D Taylor** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00353/LB: 25 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP** Extensions and internal and external alterations to dwelling. **Applicant: Mr D Matthew** Reason: Work to a listed building.  
**CA/12/00357/FUL: Chequers Barn, High Street, Fordwich, CT2 0DX** Conversion of ancillary residential buildings to a single residential unit. **Applicant: Mr S Waitt** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00367/ADV: Newingate House, 16-17 Lower Bridge Street, Canterbury** Exterior signage and illumination. **Applicant: GAU The American University** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00369/FUL: 2 Woolage Green Road, Woolage Green, Womenswold, CT4 6SF** Erection of single-storey extension to side and dormer window to rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Hobson** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00374/FUL: 59 Hackington Road, Tyler Hill, Hackington, CT2 9NE** Single-storey rear extension. **Applicant: Mr D Jones** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00375/FUL: 2 Pear Tree Cottage, Stodmarsh Road, Wickhambreau, CT3 4BA** Two and single-storey side and rear extension to dwelling. **Applicant: Mr Peries** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00377/FUL: Yew Tree Farm, Stone Street, Petham, CT4 5PL** Retention of conservatory to outbuilding. **Applicant: Mr R Cronin** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.  
**CA/12/00388/FUL: 10 Beverley Road, Canterbury, CT2 7EN** Replacement bay window to front elevation and installation of dormer to rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Ms Watkins** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00391/FUL: 53 Charles Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5HW** Single-storey rear extension. **Applicant: Mrs V Inwood** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00396/FUL: From Hampton Pier car park to Red House Farm on Thorden Wood Road, Herne Bay** Laying of underground electricity cables including area of temporary storage of plant and machinery. **Applicant: Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd** Reason: Major development.  
**CA/12/00404/FUL: 14 High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5LH** Conversion of ground-floor from retail shop (Use Class A1) into a two-bedroom self-contained residential apartment and associated alterations. **Applicant: Mr Mark Walker** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00409/FUL: 25 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP** First-floor extension to side of dwelling, single-storey rear extension and balcony at second floor level. **Applicant: Mr D Matthew** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00422/FUL: The Queens Head, 44 William Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5PB** Conversion of public house to residential, comprising of four apartments and two houses. **Applicant: Mr J Bevan** Reason: Conservation area.  
**CA/12/00514/LB: The Queens Head, 44 William Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5PB** Alterations to listed building associated with residential conversion. **Applicant: Mr J Bevan** Reason: Work to a listed building.  
Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to [development.control@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@canterbury.gov.uk) to arrive on or before **Monday 23 April 2012**.  
The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: [www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc)  
**Ian Brown**, Head of Planning and Regeneration  
**Friday 30 March 2012**



**AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Sections 15 and 16 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011:-  
1. from 10 July to 6 August 2012 on Mondays to Fridays inclusive between 9am and 4pm any person interested on application to the Head of Finance and Governance, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS may inspect and make copies of the accounts of the Council for the year ended 31 March 2012 and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating thereto; and  
2. on or after 7 August 2012 until the completion of the audit, the District Auditor, Andy Mack, 4th Floor, "B" Block, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ at the request of any local government elector for the area to which the accounts relate, will give the elector or their representative an opportunity to question him about the accounts, and any such elector or representative may attend before the Auditor and make objection to any of the accounts. No objection shall be made by or on behalf of a local government elector unless the District Auditor has previously received written notice of the proposed objection and of the grounds on which it is to be made. Where an elector sends a notice to the Auditor for this purpose they shall at the same time send a copy of the notice to the Council.  
Lee M. Colyer CFFA  
Head of Finance & Governance (s151 Officer)  
Town Hall  
Royal Tunbridge Wells  
Kent TN1 1RS  
April 2012



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## PLANNING

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR  
PLANNING PERMISSIONNOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)  
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/TM/0075/2012 - Proposed development at  
Tarmac Ltd, Ham Hill Quarry, Snodland, Kent, ME6  
5LA

Tarmac Ltd is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for an Aggregate Recycling Facility and a Concrete Batching Plant together with amendments to the currently approved quarry restoration plans.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)  
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010  
AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING  
AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/TM/0038/2012 - Proposed development at  
Ryars Primary School, Birling Road, Ryars, West  
Malling, Kent, ME19 5LS

KCC Property & Infrastructure Support is applying to Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission for the provision of new modular two classroom building. The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated. The proposed development is adjacent to a Conservation Area and may affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view these applications at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING  
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)  
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/TW/0524/2011 - Proposed development at  
Westdene, Whetsted Road, Five Oak Green,  
Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 6SD

CLC Construction Ltd is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for change of use of the land from breakers yard and storage of damaged vehicles and trailers to site office and open storage with ancillary operations.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB

Alternatively, details of the applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at [www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications](http://www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications) or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to [planning.applications@kent.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@kent.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

Sharon Thompson  
Head of Planning  
Applications Group  
Kent County Council  
Dated: 1 April 2012



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### BIRTHS

#### HARGROVE

Claire and William celebrate the birth of their daughter, Emma Kathleen on 5th March 2012. A much loved sister for Matthew and Granddaughter for Irene, Sue and Rodney.

#### HOWSON

Our beautiful Princess Freya Erynne born to Charlene and Christopher on 8th March weighing 7lbs 13ozs.

#### PAGE

Keileigh and John celebrate the birth of their son Logan Bailey Page on 10th March 2012.

#### SPINKS

Terry and Diane of Canterbury are thrilled to announce the arrival of their son Billy on 19th March at Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother hospital weighing 7lb 2oz. Welcome to the world our precious son

### DEATHS

#### PLUCK

Bob Pluck- Local Jazz Musician. Died 21st March 2012. Service to be held at Medway Crematorium on 3rd April 2012 at 12.40 pm

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### Mamma Mia Party

#### For over 40s only

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village, Suffolk Coast

**Self drive, 3 nights half board PLUS 99p Bar Quote MP5-KOS**

**£99pp**

**25 to 28 May, 2012**

Join us for a party where the name of the game is fun. We're reviving the 70s & 80s when Abba reigned supreme and their songs were on everyone's lips. We have organised a fabulous private party weekend featuring Mamma Mia the Movie and a top Abba Tribute Band playing live.

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village is situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. Enjoy a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9 hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. The recently refurbished chalets are all single storey and situated on level ground, in landscaped grounds just a short stroll from the main



facilities and car parks. All chalets have TV, tea/coffee making facilities, heating, double glazing, en suite bath/shower & toilet, bed linen & towels. Included meals are taken in the buffet-style cafeteria with views over the grounds to the sea.

#### INCLUDED:

- Mamma Mia the Movie
- Top Abba Tribute band
- 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night
- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation with TV & tea/coffee-making facilities

#### Mamma Mia, What a Party!

**Well organised good entertainment, good food** – Mrs McConville of Bedfordshire

**Good value no kids or teenagers** – Mr Long of Sussex

**Adults only good fun and atmosphere** – Mrs Davies of Nottinghamshire

**Friendly atmosphere, good company – no children** – Mr Gardiner of Kent

**The whole weekend was brilliant. Thank you** – Mrs Ferguson of Essex

**Entertainment brilliant** – well done – Mrs Milsted of Suffolk

**Value for money, good service throughout our stay, staff all very helpful and friendly** – Mr Scripps of Kent

*What GN Holidays' customers said about their Mamma Mia Party at Pontin's Pakefield in March*

### Italian Lakes: Como & Maggiore

**Escorted Holiday by Rail from London, \*Ebbsfleet & Ashford**

**9 days, semi-all-inclusive**

**Quote CO6/9-KOS**

**From £1049pp**

**8 June & 28 Sept, 2012**

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#### INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Champagne check-in
- Return Eurostar and TGV train travel London St Pancras to Lugano (\*from Ebbsfleet & Ashford on request)
- 1 night hotel B&B in Paris



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The Kyle of Lochalsh railway

### Highland Rail Inverness & Loch Ness

**Escorted Holiday by Rail**

**6 days, half board**

**Quote RS6/9-KOS**

**£599pp**

**15 June & 6 Sept, 2012**

This super holiday takes in one of the world's finest coast-to-coast railway journeys - Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh. Enjoy spectacular views from the train all the way. Passing Loch Carron, the railway

clings to the rocky shoreline towards the Cuillin Hills and the Isle of Skye before reaching journey's end - the Kyle of Lochalsh. Our holiday starts at London Kings Cross where we join the train to Inverness. Also included is a cruise on Loch Ness.

#### INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return rail travel from London Kings Cross to Inverness
- 5 nights in the 3-star Royal Highland Hotel, Inverness with 3 breakfast & 5 dinners
- Rail excursion to the Kyle of Lochalsh
- Loch Ness cruise



Plenty of entertainment at Pontin's Pakefield

### Suffolk Coast Midweek Breaks

**Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village**

**Self-Drive - 4 nights, half board**

**Quote PM-KOS**

**£89pp**

**16 & 30 April; 7 & 14 May; 11 & 18 June, 2012**

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village is situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. Enjoy entertainment every night and

day with Pontin's famous Bluecoats and visiting cabaret acts – PLUS a choice of bars and eateries, an indoor swimming pool, snooker, pool, darts, short mat bowls, 9 hole pitch & putt, tennis court and more. The recently refurbished chalets are all single storey and situated on level landscaped grounds just a short stroll from the main facilities. All chalets have TV, tea/coffee making, heating, double glazing, en suite bath/shower & toilet, bed linen & towels. Included meals are taken in the buffet-style cafeteria with views over the grounds to the sea.

#### INCLUDED:

- 4 nights en-suite chalet accommodation with TV & tea/coffee-making facilities
- 4 dinners & 4 breakfasts
- Entertainment every day



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will be decked out for the Festive season. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served on arrival and, during your stay, you will enjoy Christmas dinner with all the trimmings.

#### ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- New Year's Eve Party Night
- GN Holidays Fancy Dress Competition

#### PRICE INCLUDES:

- Free Bar from 6pm to 11pm every night
- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation
- Car ferry crossing



Gino D'Acampo reveals why we might be hearing a lot more of him

SEE PAGE 53



## MOVING ON UP

VW ventures into the city-car market and blends style with fun

SEE PAGE 67

# Kent Weekend

## Runway to Hell

Nightmarish visions of a new airport

SEE PAGE 61





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## THE INTERVIEW

Gino D'Acampo

# Italian who's loving the heat

**Joe Bill** talks to celebrity chef Gino D'Acampo ahead of his visit to the BBC's Good Food Show

**T**HE cream of the UK's culinary elite heads to Kent during the next fortnight for a festival of cooking. Glow, the new entertainment venue at Bluewater shopping centre, is hosting this spring's BBC Good Food Show UK, the first time it has been in the county.

Among those present will be Saturday Kitchen's James Martin, wine expert Olly Smith and celebrity chef Gino D'Acampo.

The former king of the 'I'm A Celeb' jungle will be signing his new book for fans as well as providing an insight into his cooking skills.

"The people will be able to sample some of the dishes and the wines – they can see cooking demonstrations, so they can get a lot of tips out of it," said D'Acampo.

"It is a chance for them to meet their favourite cook on television. It's also a good chance for us, too, because it is always a pleasure to see them."

The Italian, known for his passion for the food of his home nation, has been highly sought after since winning the ITV reality show in 2009 and since become a household name across the UK.

He said: "I am very busy at the moment. I have just finished a new project in schools with a company called Innovate Services. Together we have designed 12 pasta dishes which will go into about 120 different schools around the country. They can get a bit of authentic Italian flavour in school, but also it is nice and healthy."

D'Acampo, 35, has also entered the world of the smartphone, having launched his own app this year.

He said: "It's called Eating Italian – we have about 25 to 30 video recipes done exclusively for the app. There are pictures to make the meals and it is also a way to learn a bit of the Italian language. There are all the words like spelling linguini properly, or tagliatelle and things like that. It is very helpful, it is not too expensive, it is beautifully shot, so it is all good."

Like many other celebrity chefs, D'Acampo has his own range of cookware and a number of



cookbooks, including his latest offering, Italian Home Baking, which he will be signing at Bluewater.

He said: "The book is all to do with stuff you have to bake, from breads to biscuits to Italian pastas to Italian pizzas... everything you need."

"But my favourite dish would be anything to do with pasta – a bit of pasta with cherry tomatoes, a bit of basil and some extra virgin olive oil... to me that is simple food at its best."

The best pasta for me is the very thin penne, the tube with pieces of mozzarella, nice and simple."

D'Acampo grew up in Naples and inherited his love of food from his grandfather Giovanni, himself a head chef.

The young protégé attended the Luigi de Medici Catering College before setting off to find work elsewhere. He said: "I was ready for an adventure, so I travelled all over Europe,

employed in different kitchens, learning about life and love. I ended up working for the Italian Stallion himself as head chef at Sylvester Stallone's Mambo King restaurant in Marbella.

"While I was in Spain, I met and fell in love with my beautiful English wife and moved with her to London in 1995."

And it is his travels that continue to help the chef come up with new ideas for the kitchen.

He said: "It happens that when you travel, or when you go to someone's house for dinner, or even to other restaurants, I always carry a small notepad with me."

"So if I try something new I think 'OK, I like this idea' and go back home or to my development kitchen at the office and I see if I can do something new with it – this is how it happens."

"You try it on the family first and then a

couple of friends and then you see if the flavours work together – then you put it into the book."

"Sometimes someone gives you a recipe and says 'Gino, I tried this one and I think it's fantastic'. So you try it and tweak it a little and then you have got it. It is a very simple process."

Since the jungle, where he starred alongside Katie Price and Samantha Fox, D'Acampo's reputation has rocketed, although he is quick to play down his increased fame.

"Honestly, I had a lot of work before I went in the jungle, but of course it was great," he said. "I already had my books, my pots and pans in supermarkets, and all my ideas were there. It did help because it was in front of an evening audience who were not really familiar with me."

"We get stopped when we are out shopping, especially in the food-shopping environment. They see a chef, they take advantage of coming over and asking questions and food questions. And you know what – it is great!"

However, don't expect to see the chef on skates or in reality sequins any time soon: "I think I am done with the reality shows. No dancing on ice and all that – it would require too much training."

However, there is one conquest D'Acampo would like to make outside the food industry: he wants to write a hit record.

The big Oasis fan said: "Yes I do. No laughing – that is not fair! I play the guitar and have played it since I was nine or 10. I used to go to boy scouts and learned how to play the guitar. Everybody who plays an instrument comes to try out a little singing. And, like I do with recipes, I have something written down, which I change every two or three months."

"One day it might happen. I really hope so because very rarely it happens to me that I look back and wish I had done that. I have been lucky to do most of the things I have wanted to do. So I hope it will happen."

**■ Gino D'Acampo will be appearing at the BBC Good Food Show UK, being held at Glow, Bluewater, from Thursday to Sunday, April 12-15. See [www.bluewater.co.uk/whatsonlist](http://www.bluewater.co.uk/whatsonlist) for more details.**



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**KERRY** blonde blue eyed cultured lady, very genuine, caring, seeking caring natured male 45-58 for loving romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386649**

**HI** I'm Jane a 40yr old divorcee with 3 children, looking to find in love again, seeks genuine, confident, very tactile male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386643**

**TINA** new to this and a bit nervous, lonely blue eyed 30yr old looking for male companion 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386625**

**SARA** 31 tall and single, lovely green eyes, outgoing and social WLTm tall down to earth stable male for poss LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386623**

**MARGARET** 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248**

**ALICE** 18yr old tall blonde carefree student, looking for exciting male 18-30 for good times only. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387107**

**HI** I'm Jo, petite, pretty, fed up with own company, seeking male to help me get back into the swing of things, for uncomplicated fun times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387103**

**DEBBIE** slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387101**

**CHARLIE** young 37yr old blonde attractive nurse, OHAC, no ties, new to the area and dating scene, looking to find love with genuine available male, 25-42 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387051**

**LAURA** single female 22yrs, blonde, blue eyes, very attractive with curvy figure, WLTm old male for fun times only. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387049**

**TASHA** single working mum seeks light hearted man, 35-45 who also likes to enjoy life to the full for passion, romance and tlc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387047**

**SANDRA** outgoing 53, carer, seeks male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390230**

**BLACK** female, 33, single mum, loving, honest, caring, kind, seeks professional, kind, honest male, 34-44. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387565**

**29YR** old female, 3 children, smoker, size 16-18, bubbly, outgoing, likes a laugh, cuddles, seeking likeminded male for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387463**

**48YR** old female, kind, loving, caring, genuine, fun loving, loves music, singing, theatre, holidays, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387797**

**LORRAINE** 5ft 9ins, medium build, 49, bubbly, looking for male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386401**

**LYNETTE** 60, South African, new to area, N/S, sociable, like the outdoors, looking for new friends. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386387**

**32YR** old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309**

**BECKY** 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTm Mr Right if he is out there? **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305**

**JENNY** very feminine attractive mature classy female with beautiful blue eyes, looking for male to enjoy plenty of laughs and get to know. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386303**

**JUNE** good looking divorced 40's female, bubbly romantic and looking for tlc. Genuine replies only pls. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386301**

**SUE** young looking vivacious female with great sense of humour, OHAC, independent, interesting, seeking single tactile male. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386275**

**DEBS** 38 green eyed sophisticated blonde, attractive size 12, not looking for anything long term or steady just fun with intelligent male, 30-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386273**

**FEMALE** 58, 5ft 11ins, hazel eyes, cuddly, caring, likes animals, drink, good food, seeks likeminded male to share life with. Is that you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386271**

**BLACK** female, 35, GSOH, caring, loving, kind, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376611**

**CLAIRE** 38 blue eyes, blonde, looking for professional gent up to 50yrs LTR. Call me to meet up for a casual drink and chat. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380881**

**SUE** 53, slim, blue eyes, likes football, animals, seeks N/S male, 45-55 for loving, lasting relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386247**

**NICKY** 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389774**

**CAROL** alone on a Saturday night with a bag of chips, what am I doing? Sick of being single and looking for a male who can handle a good woman. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383119**

**SHARON** 5ft 7ins, slim blonde, attractive, funny, good job, nice home, sports car, well educated/travelled, newly single and looking for love. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383113**

**ERIN** attractive petite divorcee with own home, looking for nights in/out, friendship and maybe more with mature male. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383111**

**FEMALE** likes coast walks, shopping, gardening, countryside, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381463**

**HEATHER** 53, brown eyes, size 14, likes nights in/out, socialising, gardening, travel, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387257**

**VALERIE** looking for genuine male for nights out and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387173**

**CLARE** attractive, petite, size 8, brown hair, blue eyes, likes theatre, walks, shopping, seeks genuine male, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385673**

**KEELY** blonde 18yr old, blue eyes size 10, stays at home too much and looking for fun male with OHAC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385377**

**EMMA** pretty 30yr old Scottish lassie, new to the area and looking for some nice company, give me a call and we can take it from there. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385373**

**GEM** 24, slim blonde with blue eyes, single mum of one, extremely easygoing, WLTm genuine male for LTR. Dads welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385369**

**DIANE** single fit female, no children, OHAC, lots of free time, looking for a nice man to get to know and hopefully fall in love with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385351**

**RUTH** slim funny 18yr old brunette who loves cuddles seeks genuine guy for friendship leading to more. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385349**

**SUSIE** 45, 5ft 8ins, student, outgoing, easygoing, likes the outdoors, museums, theatre, socialising, seeks likeminded male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385716**

**IVY** May tall, slim, voluptuous, seeking older, generous, kind, caring male, 75-80 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385505**

**TIA** 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382081**

**WENDY** enjoys most things in life and is up for anything, whatever you fancy? I'm willing to give it a go! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382079**

**ALEX** attractive professional, separated, no ties, OHAC, seeks similar romantic male for love, companionship and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383049**

**MARIA** 47, curly blonde hair, 5ft 6ins, size 14, GSOH, likes reading, walks, WLTm kind, friendly, fun loving gent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380509**

**MARY** 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

**KEIRA** 34yr old very attractive female, fed up of staying in alone, looking for likeminded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384055**

**JO** bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, dvds, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337**

**LOOKING** for a nice soul mate, dinners, drinks, walks, someone who enjoys life, I am optimistic, happy, fun, cuddly, slim, red hair, enjoy good food, working out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379865**

**SHARON** 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

**LOOKING** to start the New Year of with a bang? Faye open minded 20yr old female just looking for fun times. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383045**

**LONELY** lady, retired nurse, 68, likes country/western music, nights in/out, GSOH, seeking male of similar age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385835**

**CARING** affectionate female, 64, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, seeks male, 60-70 with GSOH for friendship/companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384871**

**MAISY** seeks male who likes dogs, country walks, beach, meals out and knows there own mind for a relationship and to build memories, fun loving lady 47. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383733**

**SHARON** 37yr old attractive female size 10, employed, OHAC, single mum of one, seeking similar lonely male with mature outlook. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385655**

**DEBS** slim attractive stylish 40 looking for male who is prepared to give me lots of attention for fun times in return. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385653**

**JEAN** professional nurse attractive and all women! Loves winning and dining seeking white knight who appreciates a real black beauty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385651**

**JAN** genuinely attractive voluptuous sensual female looking for companionship with loving man, 35-65yrs. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385597**

**JULIE** blonde blue eyed outgoing female, 31yrs, seeking laidback relationship with likeminded affectionate male, any age/looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385595**

**RONNIE** 39 looking for fun loving bit on the side! must have a GSOH and own home. I will provide the entertainment! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385593**

**SANDRA** 63, varied interests, cinema, walks, animals, meals out, N/S, social drinker, cuddly, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385315**

**MARY** 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189**

**PAT** 70's, 5ft, cuddly, seeks male for friendship and days out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389521**

**JACKIE** 48, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more, preferably a smoker. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386803**

**STUNNING** blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, WLTm uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369221**

**AMANDA** cuddly 36yr old easygoing caring lonely female just looking for love with nice guy, 30-55yrs. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375133**

**MARY** likes most things, nights out, socialising, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383847**

**SANDRA** 63, likes cuddles, varied interests, WLTm male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383497**

**TRISHA** teacher, blonde, attractive, uncomplicated, undemanding, no materialist well travelled, likes reading, walking, laughing, seeks tall, professional male, 60's for simple joys. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379891**

**KERRY** 32yr old single mum of one, ready to move on with a new relationship, WLTm genuine male for dates, text fun and more. Pls Call. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383901**

**SUE** long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380853**

**KAZ** 32yr old intellectual mixed race female, likes gym, meals in/out, seeks reliable, honest male, 38-58yrs to get to know for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376591**

**NATALIE** blonde blue eyed nurse, 33yrs medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376589**

**AUDREY** recently widowed, seeks lonely gent for friendship and conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381213**

**SHARON** 50, widowed, looking for nice gent to take out to theatre, cinema, country walks and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384497**

**CARING** genuine single mum, GSOH, 41, looking for genuine male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384349**

**NIAMH** single attractive female, well travelled and body confident, seeking mature male who can handle a real woman. Or at least thinks he can. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384051**

**KIM** 37, slim blue eyed brunette, divorced with no ties, looking for a genuine convenient friendship/more. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384049**

**SARA** slim tall blonde bombshell, loves dancing, walking in the rain, WLTm genuine male loves life as much as I do. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384047**

**IN** for a Penny in for a Pound. Gorgeous curvy figured attractive brunette, bubbly, outgoing and fun, looking for confident romantic companion. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383907**

**CHERYL** young 54, attractive, petite, brunette, slim, likes most things, easygoing, looking for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380141**

**PROFESSIONAL** female, late 30's, own business, seeks honest male for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388370**

**JULIE** attractive slim blonde blue eyed beauty, fit with GSOH, professional OHAC, WLTm male for travel, good food/wine and mutual over indulgences. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379007**

**DIANE** successful feisty business woman, confident, fun, chatty, positive, social with everything but that special someone in her life and WLTm him. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379203**

**LIBBY** 36, newly single, no hang-ups, WLTm outgoing male to wine/dine and forever be mine. Don't miss out! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380879**

## Men Seeking

**Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.**

**Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 (T&C's below)**

**PRESENTABLE** professional architect, honourable and kind, many interests, seeks interesting attractive female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388373**

**ROBERTO** 57 11ins, dark hairs, green eyed Italian, likes DIY holidays, seeking honest trustworthy female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390450**

**RICHARD** 47, dark hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, likes holidays, theatre, travel, country walks, meals out, seeks female 34-65 for happy LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388323**

**BARRY** 65, retired, 5ft 10ins, N/S, car owner, likes cooking, reading, sports, quiet drink, seeks lady for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388179**

**JOHN** 26, athletic, good looking, seeks female, 18-40 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388167**

**MIKE** 59, OHAC, seeks female companion, any age for days out, coast, friendship and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387841**

**GRAHAM** 45, attractive, kind, considerate, seeks soul mate for romance and loving LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387771**

**46YR** old male GSOH, seeking fun, outgoing female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389884**



**ALICE** 30's female, slim, lovely smile, not that happy at the moment but hoping you might change that, you've nothing to lose? Call me. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379201**

**LISA** blonde 31yrs, extremely fit and outgoing, seeking male for casual friendship with benefits. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380879**

**CANTERBURY** mature male, 56, medium build, GSOH, sign language interpreter, seeks slim lonely female, 26-44 for LTR. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379673**

**MALE** 50, GSOH, looking for soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387485**

**MARK** 60, N/S, seeks romantic, understanding lady, 47-67 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387171**

**MALE** 44, slim, brown hair, enjoys life, GSOH, seeks female for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387149**

**DAVID** light hearted, positive, vibrant, has high expectation of what he can offer a woman, 30-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387121**

**EASYGOING** cheerful male, 64, 6ft, 13st, blue eyes, educated, romantic, seeks female, 47-57. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387087**

**ROMANTIC** understanding male, 62, white, N/S, caring, considerate, seeks black lady, 18-68 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387077**

**MALE** 56, large build, manual worker, seeks broadminded, uninhibited female for fun and friendship, must be discreet and like nature. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387947**

**STEVEN** likes nights out, country walks, looking for female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387939**

**MALE** 44, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, honest, caring. **GSOH, OHAC, missing that special person, seeks female, 30-50 for friendship and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387933**

**ATTRACTIVE** male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, likes the good things, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387635**

**IAN** 51, slight disability, likes singing, dancing, rock/roll, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387553**

**SINGLE** dad, 6ft, medium build, blue eyes, WLTm female, 30-40 to enjoy quality time, walks and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387551**

**SEAN** likes nights out, seeks female for dates, fun times and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385457**

**INTELLIGENT** 1950's pleasant male, average height build, GSOH, solvent, kind, seeks female for LTR and soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387357**

**FUN** loving professional male, early 40's, level headed, likes wining/dining, seeks warm

# FOOD & DRINK

## Flavours of Kent

To be included on this page, please email  
features@kosmedia.co.uk

# Take Hart or even The Hog... high street has a new gem

**W**HEN you've struggled to get a table at a pub restaurant for weeks on end, you start to wonder what all the fuss is about. A two-for-one deal maybe? Or is it simply that the food is exceptional?

In this case, it's most definitely the latter and, combined with a friendly team who go out of their way to make sure guests are happy, the recently-relaunched White Hart Hotel in Hythe has become the gem of the high street.

This historic inn – built in 1395 – is a family-run hotel, restaurant and freehouse, boasting original features and a stunning 16th-century courtyard.

Low oak beams and an inglenook fireplace make for a cosy feel and while the pictures of celebrities who have enjoyed the chef's cooking could be viewed as slightly cheesy, they actually did have the desired effect and I found myself quietly impressed that the likes of Johnny Depp and Britney Spears admired the person who was about to cook my food.

After ordering a bottle of Sauvignon Blanc (£12.50) we looked at the menu, which consisted of a range of locally-sourced produce, a selection of delicious specials and the type of good, honest dishes that promise bags of flavour

## RESTAURANT REVIEW



and the likelihood of leaving you stuffed.

I chose the green-pea-and-goat's-cheese risotto (£6) and my dining companion the soup of the day – roasted red pepper (£4.50).

My guest's soup packed real punch and left that warm feeling of true home-cooked food. My risotto was delicious, although slightly on the large side and I was already worrying about how I was going to manage the next course.

For our main dishes my companion chose the tasty Cajun-style rump steak with hand-cut wedges (£14) and I went for pizza.

While I don't usually choose pizza when I eat out, I defy anyone who sees The Hog (£9) on

the menu and doesn't consider it.

The stone-baked pizza boasts crispy pork belly, black pudding, smoked ham hock, mozzarella, herbs and rocket (£9). I won't lie: I could barely contain myself with excitement.

So it was with great sadness that after four slices of the delicious pizza I had to wave the white flag, slightly annoyed at myself for naively wolfing down every bite of my starter without thinking about what was coming next.

This is when I have to again praise the staff, who, having already impressed me with their friendly attitude, wrapped the pizza in foil so I could take it home to eat later.

Despite being stuffed, the dessert menu looked too tempting to ignore and so we shared a lemon-and-lime posset with raspberry coolie (£4.75). This was the perfect dessert: tasty, fresh and presented beautifully.

The White Hart is a must, whether for a full sit-down meal or a drink in the stunning courtyard and bar.

Our bill came to £50.75, well worth it for food I can only describe as simply outstanding.

**Marijke Cox**

■ The White Hart Hotel, 71 High Street, Hythe CT21 5AJ. Telephone: 01303 238304; website: [www.thewhiteharthythe.co.uk](http://www.thewhiteharthythe.co.uk)



## Jamie Oliver is part of the Bluewater Union

JAMIE Oliver is to open a new restaurant at Bluewater shopping centre, near Dartford.

Together with business partner Chris Bianco, the celebrity chef will launch a Union Jacks restaurant on the lower Thames Walk entrance of the recently-opened Plaza. It will be Oliver's second eatery at the shopping centre after Jamie's Italian opened there last year.

Union Jacks was created by Oliver and Phoenix-based Chris Bianco, who is renowned for his wood-fired pizzas. It combines Bianco's expertise with Oliver's love of top-quality ingredients.

Oliver's restaurants chief, Simon Blagden, said: "We have received fantastic feedback from our first Union Jacks and are excited to be opening at Bluewater."

"It has proved to be a brilliant site for Jamie's Italian since we launched last autumn, so we are delighted that it will become home to Union Jacks."

The restaurant, billed as "where wood-fired flatbreads meet great British flavours", will become the fourth Union Jacks in the UK and is set over 4,000 sq ft.



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The Harps Inn open usual times over Easter Weekdays

Saturday 11.30am-3.30pm, 7pm-11.30pm  
Sunday 12-4pm, 7pm-10.30pm  
Monday 11.30am-3pm, 7pm-11pm

Sunday Roasts choice of meat available with all the trimmings:

2 Courses: Adult £9.95 Child £7.25  
3 Courses: Adult £11.95 Child £9.90

Booking is advisable

**The Harps Inn**  
**Minster Road, Sheerness ME12 3NR**  
**01795 875 959**

# EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

To be included on this page, please email  
[features@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:features@kosmedia.co.uk)



## Images of Ellen Terry A rare opportunity

**Smallhythe Place, Tenterden**

Wednesday, April 11

01580 762334

[www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org)

SMALLHYTHE Place, the small house with the big charm, has a rare treat in store for visitors. Staff will be revealing rarely-seen personal possessions from the Victorian actress Ellen Terry's collection of books, photographs and letters. Terry was a renowned actress in the late 1800s and early 1900s and lived at Smallhythe Place from 1899 to 1928.

The attraction is owned by the National Trust, which will bring Ellen's story alive through short talks on the items.

Paul Meredith, house manager, said: "We also hope to include examples of her children's works, such as her daughter Edy's sketchbook of costume designs."

## Active Easter Egg action and spring walks

**Penshurst Place, Tonbridge**

Sat, March 31–Thu, April 15

01892 870307

[www.penshurstplace.com](http://www.penshurstplace.com)

FAMILIES can look forward to an eggciting holiday as Penshurst Place hosts children's Easter activities and events.

Young visitors can get creative

by trying their hand at craft activities from midday to 4pm as well as a daily spring walk. Come and see Aardvark Productions take its audience on a celebration of the season. The show sees the old man of the woods and his companion as they regale you with tales of Easter and the celebrations of this wonderful season.

Youngsters can also try their hands at egg-rolling, while there will also be a traditional egg-and-spoon race.

All the children's events are included in the normal garden ticket admission.



## Wartime ways 1940s-style celebration

**KESR, Tenterden**

Sat and Sun, May 19–20

01580 765155

[www.kesr.org.uk](http://www.kesr.org.uk)

CAPTURE the atmosphere of the 1940s at the Kent & East Sussex Railway in Tenterden in May when its annual wartime weekend gets into full swing.

Visitors of all ages can come along to experience the Forties lifestyle as the stations along the line turn back the clock with authentic memorabilia, bunting, wartime demonstrations and spivs.

There will be flying displays, dancing, singing and a packed programme of entertainment.

The old-style trains will run throughout the weekend and each 1940s ticket includes unlimited steam-train travel between Tenterden and Bodiam station all day.

History enthusiasts can browse a range of civilian and military vehicles, privately owned and fully restored to their wartime glory.



## Two wheels... loads of deals Bikes bash

**Orbital Park, Ashford**

Monday, April 9

01797 344277

[www.elk-promotions.co.uk](http://www.elk-promotions.co.uk)

THE Ashford Classic Motorcycle Show has become a regular highlight of the Easter weekend – and this year is no different.

Held at Orbital Park's modern

agricultural market, the event attracts a range of classic motorcycles, including rarely-seen American machines.

The show bikes are judged during the course of the day, with a ceremony and prize raffle at about 3pm.

The Ashford show also incorporates a bike-only autojumble, with garage-clearance stalls available for anyone who'd like to declutter the shed and turn old relics from old wrecks into a little extra cash. These stalls are available for £10 pre-booked. Admission is £5 for adults.

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# KENT ATTRACTIONS

## Pace, passion and petrol Karting capers

**Buckmore Park, Chatham**  
01634 201562  
www.buckmore4kids.co.uk  
sales@buckmore.co.uk.

FOR fun that is fast and furious, you can't beat karting. To experience the thrill of real outdoor karting, head to the award-winning Buckmore Park 1,000m International Outdoor Kart Circuit, just off junction 3 of the M2, where British world champions Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button learnt their trade. A session at Buckmore, which celebrates its 50th anniversary next year, will be a day to remember. The ever-popular exclusive kids' karting parties for ages four to 16 are available for up to 12 drivers, and parties can incorporate a celebration meal



and also be combined with laser-warfare games in the venue's woods. There are Turn Up'n'Drive sessions for ages four to 16 on selected dates throughout

the spring, including the Easter school holidays. There are different speeds and different tracks available for varying ages. Prices start at £15 per session.

## It's a riot of Britpop Echo & The Bunnymen, James, Cast, Space...

**Quex Park, Birchington**  
Saturday and Sunday, July 28-29  
0844 8889991  
www.gigantic.com

ON the Saturday eve of the London Olympics, Quex Park's Sound Island Festival will be paying homage to the best of British with a list right out of the Britpop era. Best known for their singles of the 90s, Sit Down and She's A Star, James have topped charts around the world. Joining them will be Echo & The Bunnymen, whose chart-topping successes include The Killing Moon and Nothing Lasts Forever. Multi-platinum sellers Cast, whose live performances have been described by Noel Gallagher as a "religious experience", will also join the list of 90s legends. Crowds will be treated to performances from, Inspiral Carpets and indie-rockers Space. Sunday's line-up includes Olly Murs and Rizzle Kicks. Festival tickets are on sale now.



## The cream of the craft Nationwide exhibitors

**Kent College, Canterbury**  
Friday to Sunday, April 13-15  
01622 747325; www.craftinfocus.com

CRAFT In Focus is staging one of its renowned contemporary-craft exhibitions. The group, which has been organising craft fairs at the top end of the creative ladder for 10 years, ended 2011 on a high after record sales at its RHS Garden Wisley event. Craft In Focus selects the finest designer-makers in the UK to exhibit at its shows. Although exhibitors come from all over the country, several local designers also feature. Admission is £4 for adults, £3 for over-65s and free for under-14s.

## Healthy but a little grizzled New arrival

**Howletts Wild Animal Park**  
0844 8424647  
www.aspinallfoundation.org/howletts

PRIMATE-KEEPERS at Howletts have announced another birth among an endangered species. Asamara, the grizzled leaf monkey, is the 20th

successful birth in the troop at the Bekesbourne park, which is the only group of this species in human care outside its native Java. Keeper Matt Ford said: "Mum and baby are doing very well. The birth provides hope for the survival of these endangered primates in captivity. Deforestation has resulted in habitat loss for the grizzled leaf monkey – only 4 per cent of its original forest habitat remains on Java." There are several recent new-borns at the park – go online to find out more.



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# STAGE & ARTS

To be included on this page, please email  
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## From Detroit to Dartford Motown fest

**The Orchard, Dartford**  
Monday to Saturday, April 2-7  
01322 220000  
www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

EXPERIENCE the energy, excitement, emotion and electricity as the cast of *Dancing In The Streets* performs at The Orchard. After spending three years in the West End, the show heads around the UK, displaying some of the greatest songs and artists in Motown history. This celebration of classic music comes straight from the heart of Detroit and has been directed by Ivor Novello Award-winner Keith Strachan. Songs will include *Heard It Through The Grapevine*; *My Girl*; *Dancing In The Streets*; *I'll Be There*; *Signed, Sealed, Delivered*; *I'm Yours*; and *Stop In The Name Of Love*. Music from the likes of The Four Tops, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, The Supremes and Marvin Gaye will be featured. Tickets priced from £21.50.



## Reality of the ironic comic Rich Hall

**The Central Theatre, Chatham**  
Friday, 27 April, at 7.30pm  
01634 338338  
www.medwayticketslive.co.uk

HEAVYWEIGHT comic from across the pond Rich Hall is popping into Medway as part of his new UK tour. The Central Theatre in Chatham will host the

American, who is famous for his grouchy and deadpan style of humour. Hall is a well known stand-up over here after years of TV panel-show appearances including *Mock The Week*, *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* and *Eight Out Of Ten Cats*. Described as the master of absurd irony and king of rapid-fire wit, Hall will discuss a variety of topics in his own hilarious and unique style, but be warned... he tells it just how it is. Tickets are still available and are priced from £16.



## Satire in the city Yes, Prime Minister

**The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury**  
Tuesday to Saturday, April 10-14  
01227 787787  
www.marlowetheatre.com

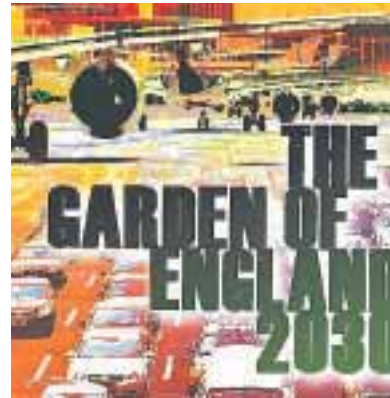
THE West End's top comedy hit *Yes, Prime Minister* is heading to The Marlowe Theatre. Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn, the original writers of the classic TV series *Yes, Minister* and *Yes, Prime Minister*, have taken the stage version nationwide after receiving huge acclaim. The production opened at Chichester Festival Theatre before transferring to The Gielgud Theatre in the West End for an extended and popular run. Now heading around the UK, Graham Seed (he of *The Archers*) will play the Prime Minister and V For Vendetta star Michael Simkins is Cabinet Secretary Sir Humphrey Appleby. Tickets are priced from £11 to £29.

## Airport battle Artists against the nightmare

**Nucleus Art Gallery, Chatham high street**  
Sat, March 31-Thu, April 5  
www.nucleus-arts.com

AN art exhibition in Chatham high street is designed to show the potentially horrific impact that a giant hub airport in the Thames estuary would have on Kent.

A series of stunning images will be on show at Nucleus Art Gallery highlighting the devastating impact that the project would have on Medway and the wider countryside. Nine artists, including Martin Booth, Karl Farrer and Tina Lawlor Mottram, have put together the exhibition, called *Beauty Or The Beast*. The exhibitors call themselves the No Thames Airport Artists Group and aim to "cut through the spin and visualise the case against such a development". Phone 01634 812108 for more information on the exhibition.



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## First **GEAR** MOTORING NEWS

- Mercedes C-Class impresses the judges
- Passat gets best new company car award
- Anticipation growing for Volvo's diesel hybrid



Jaguar on the prowl as diesel XF is gunning for BMW crown

# Driving **carsforkent.co.uk**

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

BRITAIN'S roads changed dramatically when the original Mini heralded the Swinging Sixties.

Aside from the standard car, and plush bootied versions, there were estate, minivan and stripped-down Moke jeep variants, too.

The former British Motor Corporation is said to have made a loss on this badge engineering though, but expect VW to do all right with its clever new city car and forthcoming Seat and Skoda spin-offs.

Called the Up! – and that's the last time I shall use the marketer's label by the way, it's plain Up from now on – it can't be a mould breaker like the Mini since similar baby hatchbacks are already on the market.

But none really manages to blend practicality, economy, style, cheekiness and driving fun quite so well.

You can realistically drive this city car from city to city too thanks to excellent aerodynamics and a long wheelbase delivering good refinement for such a small vehicle.

And while it's affordable (from £7,995) it's got a VW badge – a bit of premium appeal.

VW says the Up! is its first venture into this sector, conveniently forgetting the sawn-off Polo it once sold as the Lupo, but maybe choosing not to compare its cramped cabin with the capacious one in the 3.54m-long Up.

It can carry four adults and give them ample head, leg and elbow room, plus a decent boot.

Buyers might say: "Who needs a second car?" though some might wait for the five-door version due later this year, although access to the three-door's rear seats is not hard.

For now, all models use an all-new low emission 999cc three-cylinder petrol engine. It is surprisingly smooth for that format, while capable of averaging more than 60mpg and rendering a diesel option pretty pointless – don't rule it out though, and VW has promised an all-electric Up for 2013.

But the petrol would do most people fine, whether in 60PS (59bhp) or 75PS (74bhp) format. Neither is a hot rod, but you wouldn't expect it, and VW expects most people to save cash and go for the 60PS.

An eco BlueMotion version of this is available at a premium of £360, which you may recoup in fuel savings and by escaping road tax, although the whole range is exempt in year one anyway.

Take Up is the entry spec, but mid-range Move Up (from £8,970) brings air con, electric front windows, remote central locking, easy entry sliding seats, a false floor for the deep boot and much more.

And if you want to tart up then there's High Up (from £10,390) bringing alloys, some leather and lots of electrics, with the limited edition black and white versions (£11,180) looking suspiciously like VW tilting at the lucrative Fiat 500 and Mini customisation target market.



VW Up!

1ST DRIVE

Price:  
**£7,995-11,180**

Driving appeal:  
★★★★

Image:  
★★★★★

Space:  
★★★★★

Value:  
★★★★

Running costs:  
★★★★

Reliability:  
★★★★

How green?:  
★★★★

Best rival:  
**Fiat 500**

## Is VW moving on Up to the new Mini with this little incarnation?



**IT'S SMALL WONDER:** VW new baby hatchback called the Up! surprisingly offers a large amount for a car of this size and is sure to have a serious impact its tiny rivals

### DON'T LIKE

... the name Up!. As with Smart's insistence that the brand should be written all lower case, this is a silly idea, too.

### NOT SURE

... the £11,180 top models looks good value at 30 per cent more than an entry car – but it cuts a dash, though, especially in black.

### REALLY LIKE

... how VW has created a practical budget car that still upholds its slightly premium badge and is nice to drive, too.

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## MOTORING

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# BMW's ugly duckling reveals beauty when you get inside

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT'S not as if BMW wasn't told last time, so why does its most affordable and perhaps endearing model still look like it fell out of the ugly tree?

The first generation 1-Series hatchback was an exercise in how not to design a car; it just looked plain awkward, with a saggy, baggy sill line literally being the low point of the execution.

Despite the availability of a five-door version, it wasn't particularly practical either.

Fortunately, its saving graces were typically excellent BMW driving characteristics – being the only rear-wheel drive car in the family hatchback sector – good engines, tax friendliness for company car drivers, and a reputation for being tough and reliable.

And BMW has worked hard on those virtues for the second generation car launched last year, but has again been lazy on the design front.

The new Mark II five-door – three-door sales are met for now by the old model – apes the profile of its predecessor and though it's lost the baggy side-on view, the bluff front end does it no favours.

Get inside this ugly duckling though (priced from £19,375) and the swan emerges.

On the practical side, there's a bigger boot and more space in a cabin that also feels solidly made with quality materials and trim, and alloy highlights.

It's easier to get in and out of the back too; you didn't need to be overweight to catch your backside on the wheel arch as you climbed into the original car.

Mind you, legroom is still a bit cramped compared with some front-wheel drive rivals.

The dashboard layout is logical with lots of spaces and cubbyholes plus the now obligatory aux/USB connections for MP3 players and other gadgets, and you feel that BMW has really thought through what appeals to executives

BMW 116i SPORT: PRICE £21,305

## FACT FILE

Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★
Value:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£115/year
Best rival:	VW Golf

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## MAKING ITS MARK:

The BMW 1-Series still lacks the stunning lines of other models from the German car-maker, but the second generation still offers a fantastic drive, with one of the best interiors to found in the sector

or private buyers who have to work long hours out of their car.

With the full array of BMW's eco-friendly EfficientDynamics package – stop-start, battery regeneration through braking, low rolling resistance tyres, etc – on board plus powerful yet energy-efficient petrol and diesel engines, the car will also help their company car tax bills or private budgets.

Considering the prices for the premium and technical product you get, it is quite miraculous too that BMW still makes the car in Germany, despite the savings it could make from producing its smallest model somewhere with lower labour costs.

But the big issue, as ever with BMW, is how does the car drive? Beautifully.

The new 1-Series is wider and feels better planted and sprung than the old car, while retaining the lovely balance of the front engine, long wheelbase and rear-driven wheels.

It's easy to then forget the debatable looks and just enjoy the drive. The test car was a 116i petrol in trendy Sport trim (£21,305).

This is an all-new engine with a six-speed manual gearbox as standard that allows the car to be nimble, sporty and thrifty, averaging around 50mpg – testament to the power of EfficientDynamics – yet still able to hit 62mph in 8.5 seconds.

It also makes a powerful argument against going for diesel; to get equivalent performance and trim from a diesel version, you need the 118d Sport costing £23,270.

Now that will average around 13mpg more than the petrol model, but you will need to do many more miles to make the fuel savings claw back the car's extra £2,000 purchase price.

A caveat to this is that the petrol car will cost £115 a year in road tax, while the diesel will be free in year one and £30 annually after that, and should depreciate more slowly. It's your call...

## First GEAR

## MOTORING NEWS



## C-Class upset at fleet awards

BMW'S 3-Series is a UK top-10 seller, largely due to company sales, but the unsung yet impressive Mercedes-Benz C-Class landed the prestigious Fleet News awards' Best Premium Car gong instead.

The verdict was aided by a free Elegance to Sport trim upgrade, saving up to £1,700 making the Merc (estate pictured) "the ideal choice for both drivers and fleet managers".



## ...and Passat scores as well

FLEET News also decided that VW's comparatively unglamorous Passat had hidden virtues – the title made it Best New Company Car overall as well as Best Upper Medium Car winner.

The top award is decided by those at the coal face – fleet operators, particularly mindful of operating costs and resale values. Individual awards are decided by a panel of industry experts.



## Volvo turns on to eco drivers

VOLVO won't launch its plug-in diesel hybrid version of the V40 fastback estate until November – the first of its kind.

But the model has already been judged the UK's most highly-anticipated green car, according to TheGreenCarWebsite.co.uk, collecting more than 30 per cent of visitors' votes.

Second place went to the Chevrolet Volt/Vauxhall Ampera with just 11 per cent.

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08	BMW Xantia 1.6 4 VV Dynamique, Petrol, Manual, Hatchback, Silver, 73,000 miles, FSH	£24,000
02	Citroen CX 2.2 1600 4 doors, Automatic, Diesel, Hatchback, 51,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	£24,000
02	Citroen Xsara Picasso 1.6 1100 SX 5 doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 74,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	£27,000
<b>DIESELS</b>		
10	Mazda6-Diesel A160 CC Avantage SE CVT Diesel, Automatic, Hatchback, Grey, 8,700 miles, FSH	£13,900
04	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE 5 doors, Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Silver, 65,000 miles, FSH	£17,995
05	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Hardback Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Grey, 88,000 miles, FSH	£17,995
04	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Station Wagon 5 doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 69,000 miles, Metallic Blue, Full Service History	£17,995
04	MiniRoadster Sports 2.5 T0 5000 2 doors, Diesel, Manual, Estate, Silver, 44,000 miles, FSH	£19,995
01	LAND ROVER Discovery 2.5 T44 SE 5 doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 81,000 miles, Red, FSH	£19,995

02	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Station Wagon 5 Doors, Automatic, 4x4, Green, 73,000 miles, FSH.	<b>£5,700</b>
06	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 FS Station Wagon 5 Doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 73,000 miles, Metallic Blue, CBI	<b>£5,000</b>
49	49P3 Chassis Cab, 2.8 CRD Sport 6 Doors, Automatic, Station Wagon, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Black, FSH	<b>£5,000</b>
58	Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi Sport 6 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Diesel, 66,000 miles, Metallic Black, FSH	<b>£5,700</b>
59	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 S Station Wagon 5 Doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 91,000 miles, Metallic Blue, Full Service History	<b>£4,900</b>
60	Jaguar X-Type 2.0i Classic Diesel, Manual, Saloon, Silver, 83,000 miles	<b>£4,900</b>
65	Pugeot 407 1.6 HDI 130 SE, Diesel, Manual, Estate, Silver, 93,000 miles	<b>£4,900</b>
67	Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 DTi Chk Diesel, Manual, Estate, Black, 85,000 miles	<b>£3,900</b>
68	Isuzu iXta 1.5 4D 4x4 Expression, Manual, Diesel, Hatchback, 70,000miles, Metallic Black, FSH	<b>£3,900</b>
69	Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 DTi Chk, Diesel, Manual, Estate, Black, 85,000 miles, FSH	<b>£3,900</b>
72	Skoda Cit 2.2 HDi 5 Doors, Manual, Estate, 51,000miles, Blue	<b>£2,900</b>
<b>4x4</b>		
02	Land Rover Discovery 2.5 T46 S 6 Doors, Automatic, Station Wagon, Diesel, 76,000 miles, Metallic Silver, FSH	<b>£9,000</b>
54	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Station Wagon 5 Doors, Automatic, Station Wagon, Diesel, 69,000 miles, Metallic Silver, MOT-09/12, 1 Owner, Full Service History	<b>£7,900</b>
54	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Station Wagon 5 Doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 69,000 miles, Metallic Blue, Full Service History	<b>£7,900</b>
05	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Station Wagon 5 Doors, Automatic, 4x4, Silver, 65,000 miles, FSH	<b>£7,900</b>
06	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 T44 SE Hatchback, Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Green, 83,000 miles, FSH	<b>£7,900</b>

94	Mitsubishi Shogun Sport 2.5 TD Engine, Diesel, Manual, Estate, Silver, 44,000 miles, FSH	£3,900
01	Land Rover Discovery 2.5 Td6 SE 5 doors, Manual, Wagon, Silver, 81,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	£5,900
06	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 Td4 SE Station Wagon 5 doors, Manual, Station Wagon, Diesel, 73,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	£3,900
05	Land Rover Freelander 1.8E Station Wagon 5 doors, Manual, Petrol, 41,000miles, Metallic Black, FSH	£3,900
54	Jeep Cherokee 2.8 CRD Sport 6 Doors, Automatic, Station Wagon, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Black, FSH	£3,900
02	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 Td4 GS Station Wagon, Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Green, 73,000 miles, £5,400	£5,400
06	Scorpij Jany 1.3 VTT 4XJ, Petrol, Manual, Estate, Red, 69,000 miles	£3,400
03	Land Rover Freelander 1.8 ES Station Wagon, Petrol, Manual, 4x4, Blue, 53,000 miles	£4,800
03	Land Rover Freelander 1.8 ES Station Wagon, Petrol, Manual, 4x4, Burgundy, 67,000 miles	£4,800
V	Land Rover Freelander 1.8i Station Wagon, Petrol, Manual, 4x4, Gold, FSH	£2,400
<b>AUTOMATICS</b>		
06	Mercedes-Benz A180 C126 AMG S ECVT Diesel, Automatic, Hatchback, Grey, 8,700 miles, FSH	£13,900
02	Land Rover Discovery 2.5 Td6 SE 5 doors, Automatic, Station Wagon, Diesel, 76,000 miles, Metallic Silver, FSH	£3,900
54	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 Td4 SE Station Wagon Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Silver, 65,000 miles, £3,900	£3,900
05	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 Td4 SE Hatchback Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Green, 83,000 miles, FSH	£3,900
08	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec Petrol, Automatic, Estate, Silver, 29,000 miles, FSH	£3,700
02	Land Rover Freelander 2.0 Td4 GS Station Wagon Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Green, 73,000 miles, £5,400	£5,400
05	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec Petrol, Automatic, Hatchback, Silver, 29,000 miles, FSH	£3,700
02	Audi A8.2.0 T103 SE Diesel, Automatic, Black FSH	£3,400

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## Jaguar's XF diesel offers purr-fect alternative

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

JAGUAR'S new cheapest model puts eligible company car user choosers in a bind.

Previously, the default choice financially for manager/director level drivers was the BMW 520d, with Audi's A6 thereabouts too.

Jaguar's XF was in the mix, but as a choice from the heart rather than the head; the Jag oozes style and class, and drives well, but the sums didn't add up against such rivals.

But those user choosers and even private buyers have to think again at renewal time, thanks to the efficient new four-cylinder 2.2-litre diesel engine.

Jag purists will shudder at the idea of a four-pot diesel, of course, but that combination has made the 520d a huge money-spinner for BMW – once the champion of creamy straight six petrol engines.

The XF 2.2 diesel arrived last year in 190PS (188bhp) form to rave reviews and starts at £33,950 – it's already the best selling XF version – but Jaguar has now followed up with a detuned 163PS (161bhp) option that is no less impressive and sells beneath the psychologically important £30,000 barrier.

Showing the new-found savvy that is paying dividends for the brand, I'm told Jaguar's marketing people and engineers colluded more closely than ever to ensure that the new junior XF could give the 520d's figures a hard time.

Combined fuel economy and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the 163 and 190 PS are identical – 52.3mpg

FIRST DRIVE JAGUAR XF 2.2 163PS

Price: **£29,950**

Driving appeal:

★★★★★

Image:

★★★★★

Space:

★★★★

Value:

★★★★★

Running costs:

★★★★

Reliability:

★★★★

How green?:

★★★★

Best rival:

BMW 520d



and 149g/km (band F) – so they can't beat the 520d's 58.9 and band D.

But the Jag runs the Beemer close, and that keener price means more people will look at the XF, giving it the vital chance at seduction using its other charms.

Naturally, the lesser 2.2 model is not as quick off the mark as the 190PS – it gives away nearly two seconds to reach 60mph in 9.8 seconds – but the push comes in low down the rev range and the eight-speed auto box sails through the gears smoothly to make the experience a pleasure. And the same 'box allows smart manual changes via paddles on the steering wheel, giving you the best of both worlds.

In the best Jag tradition, too, the car has a well-weighted blend of comfort and handling prowess that so far eludes its German rivals.

But those Jag purists might whinge that the interior is not classic Jaguar.

Good. The XF interior is a terrific job actually, with hallmarks that BMW & co will wish they had thought of such as the air ducts that rotate open and the chunky gearbox selector that rises up when the car is started.

The seats and general ambience of the cabin are also first rate, even on this entry model.

Together with its bigger output sister, this new 2.2 diesel XF should be a big seller for the British marque.

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2006	FORD FOCUS C-MAX AUTO	Black, e/w, c/l, PAS, a/c, alloys, spacious mini MPV	SOLD
2006	CITROEN C5 1.6 HDi DIESEL AUTOMATIC 5-dr hatchback	space and economy, rarely available in AUTO	£3,995
2006	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI DIESEL 5-dr hatchback	Met Blue, 89k, alloys, all usual extras	SOLD
2006	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.9 LIFE ESTATE	New shape, Silver, 5 spd manual, Black cloth trim, 113,000 with full history, bargain at only	SOLD
2005	CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE FORTE 1.4 5-dr	all extras, 53k, low tax and insurance, ideal family car	SOLD
2004	NISSAN PRIMERA 2.2 DIESEL SE 5-dr hatchback	Silver, alloys, all usual refinements	SOLD
2003	VAUXHALL OMEGA ESTATE 2.2 AUTO	complete history with many bills, new cambelt and head recently replaced	£2,995
2005	VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.2 AUTO 5-dr hatchback	Metallic Blue, lovely condition, all extras	SOLD
2005	FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC LX 3 dr Hatch	alloys, Silver, cheap road tax and insurance group 5, 50K	£2,995
2005	FORD KA COLLECTION	Gold with grey patterned trim, e/w, PAS, in lovely condition	£2,495
2003	PEUGEOT 307 SW 2.0 DIESEL Estate	black, alloys, A/C, full length s/roof, economy and space	£2,495
1999	VW GOLF 1.4 S 5-dr Hatch	Grey, Group 4 insurance and cheap road tax, immaculate for year and very rare	£2,195
2003	PEUGEOT 206 1.4LX 5-dr Met Blue	cheap tax and insurance, PAS, e/w, remote c/l, CD	SOLD
2002	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO EXCLUSIVE HDI 2.0 DIESEL Manual	full length sunroof, Gold, all electrics	SOLD
2002	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO SX 1.6 PETROL Manual	Metallic Silver, all usual refinements	£2,195
1999	AUDI A3 1.8 3DR HATCHBACK	All usual refinements, rarely available, in Silver, with Blue trim, alloys	£1,995
2003	FIAT PUNTO	Yellow, 1.2 Sport hatch, immaculate condition, group 4 insurance and cheap road tax	£1,995
1999	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 GT TDI 5-dr	Black, Beige cloth trim, manual, taxed and MoT's, rarely available and in great condition	SOLD
2002	FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA Manual	met blue, black leather trim, full service details, alloys, immaculate, 1 owner since 2002	SOLD
2002	CITROEN C5 2.0 DIESEL Manual	5-dr hatchback, Silver, low tax group + 50+ MPG	£1,995
2002	ROVER 45 IMPRESSION 3, 5 dr hatchback	automatic, silver, grey trim, ONLY 27,000 MILES FROM NEW! Immaculate	£1,895
1999	PEUGEOT 206 1.1LX 3-dr	Met Silver, cheap tax and insurance, PAS, e/w, c/l, CD, alloys	SOLD
2002	FORD COUGAR 2.5 AUTO 3-dr hatchback	Silver, alloys, luxury black leather trim, top range car, taxed and MoT's	£1,495
2000	AUDI A6 2.4 Saloon	manual, Metallic Grey with alloys, leather trim, luxury at only	£1,495
1997	CHRYSLER NEON 4-dr SPORTS SALOON	Black, alloys, leather, rare 4-dr model, CD, e/w, PAS, a/c, tax and MoT	£1,495

2001	RENAULT SCENIC AUTO	Silver, immaculate condition inside and out, popular family mini MPV	£1,495
2002	DAEWOO LANOS 1.6 5-dr hatchback	Silver, Manual, bargain at only	£1,295
2001	HONDA ACCORD 2.0 V-TEC SALOON	Auto, 5-dr, in Silver, all refinements a fine example of this luxury family Saloon	SOLD
2001	HONDA ACCORD 5-DR HATCHBACK AUTO 2.0SE	Auto, Metallic Blue, tax and test	SOLD
2000	PEUGEOT 306 5-DR AUTOMATIC	tax and MoT, Silver, 1.6 engine	£995
2000	PEUGEOT 306 MERIDIAN ESTATE 1.8 Manual	Blue, alloys, leather trim, PAS, e/w, c/l, etc, etc	£995

1996	LANDROVER DISCOVERY COUNTY 7 SEATER 2.5 DIESEL AUTO	Blue, alloys, many bills and new parts, twin roof	£2,495
1993	MITSUBISHI SHOGUN LWB 2.5 TURBO DIESEL 7 SEATER	Alloys and all usual extras, get ready for this years snow!	£1,995
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2003	MGTF 1.6 Manual	Silver, history, 62,000 miles	SOLD
2001	PEUGEOT 206CC Convertible	Silver 53K manual, electric hard top, body kit, alloys, tax and MOT	£2,495
1997	SAAB 900 CONVERTIBLE	Red, black leather trim, manual, e/roof, alloys	£1,995
1994	AUDI CABRIOLET, CLASSIC 4 SEAT SOFT TOP, 2.0 MANUAL	bright red, only 67,000 miles from new, alloys, all extras	£1,995
1997	MGTF CONVERTIBLE	Blue, black trim, manual, alloys	SOLD

## PX BARGAINS (All cars sold with a full MoT)

2000	TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 3-dr	Red, low tax and insurance model	£1,295
1997	SAAB 900 SE TURBO 4-dr Hatchback	Silver, 1 years MOT	£995
2001	MG ZT 2.5 Manual	Silver, 15" alloys, tax and test, new manifold, so no engine rattles	£995
1996	FORD ESCORT SALOON	Red, spares or repair	SOLD
1994	NISSAN SUNNY 5-dr	Red, tax and MoT, bargain at	SOLD

## COMMERCIAL

2006	FORD TRANSIT (New Shape) 110 T260S	1 private family owned from new, SILVER, Manual 5 spd, side door, unglazed rear doors, ply-lined	SOLD
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## Sport

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## FOOTBALL

# The perils of playing the location game as Gills ponder Priestfield future again

Paul Scally might be desperate to move his club to a new stadium, but as **Fred Atkins** writes, moving any side out of its heartland is a major gamble... as other teams have found to their cost

THERE doesn't seem to be a lot of love around for the Priestfield Stadium.

In 2004, a survey by the Observer newspaper named it as the worst ground in the Football League and described it as "the biggest dump in English football".

Rival fans said it: "Makes Middlesbrough look like Monte Carlo" and that as a venue it "never fails to live down to expectations".

One particularly vituperative critic said: "It used to be nothing more than a couple of cowsheds knocked together. The away end has two Portakabins for toilets and the worst catering outside Selhurst Park. The walk from the train station is like walking through the Shangri-La Caravan Park just after closing time."

Urban sophisticate Peter Crouch isn't an admirer either, describing the fans as, "hillbillies in the film Deliverance".

And this week Paul Scally declared there was "no sustainable future" for Gillingham at the venue they've sustained a club at for 109 years.

You can understand why Scally might cast an envious eye over Brighton's new stadium in Falmer, but for every successful relocation, there's a rich man's folly like Darlington's Arena, or Nene Park, which eventually helped bleed the life out of Rushden Town and Irthlingborough Diamonds and is now threatening to do the same to Kettering.

The economic arguments for moving to purpose-built arenas always sound compelling, but are often based on over-optimistic projections of just how many fans a new venue will attract.

And by moving a football club out of the community it grew out of, something is lost that it's impossible to quantify.

Only four senior football grounds have been built in Kent since World War Two.

Two, Dartford's Princes Park and Maidstone's unfinished Gallagher Stadium were built in or near town centres, to replace grounds that should never have been bulldozed in the first place (like Brighton's Goldstone Ground).

The other two illustrate just how badly relocation can backfire.

Sittingbourne's Central Park is the archetypal white elephant, a venue that literally went to the dogs. It may only be a mile out of the town centre, but it might as well have been in a different borough judging by Brickies' attendances over the past few seasons.

Ashford's Homelands is, in terms of facilities, one of the best grounds in Kent, but you can get a train to Lille in the time it'll take you to walk there from Ashford station, while Mike Floate, author of the book Non League Football Grounds of Kent describes it as demonstrating "almost everything that can go wrong" with a football ground.

Priestfield's location by contrast is right in the middle of the most densely populated area of the county. Tens of thousands of people live within walking distance and if Gillingham did move there's no guarantee they would follow them.

At Darlington the word 'unsustainable' is now used to describe the 25,000-seat arena, where barely 1,000 fans watch a floundering team.

Gillingham have historically attracted a hard core of 3,000 fans, even when results are bad. What happens if they move to a 20,000-seat arena the die-hards can't walk to any more?



Pictures: ADY KERRY

**OUT WITH THE OLD?:** Peter Crouch doesn't like Priestfield and Observer readers aren't keen, but what would Gillingham lose if they move out?

## Scally raps out warning over club's future

GILLINGHAM chairman Paul Scally's has written to all 55 members of Medway Council claiming there is no "sustainable future for Gillingham Football Club on its current site" and urging them to reject a scheme to develop Medway Docks because it could ruin the club's chances of building a new stadium at Mill Hill.

Scally says a report by Medway Council into a possible new venue for Gillingham identified land at Medway Docks, owned by Peel Holdings, as "the most appropriate site in Medway by far".

A plan to relocate Gillingham there was drafted, but the scheme was delayed by the recession and a wrangle over the need for "enabling development", specifically a supermarket.

Scally writes that he was incredulous to find revised plans had been drafted for the site in September 2011, which ignored the football club.

He says: "To the utter astonishment of the club, its advisors and others, and without any notification or discussion, the club heard of an exhibition in Medway, at which Peel were presenting to the public their plans to develop the southern area of their site.

"Their plans included all the facilities of the club's proposed scheme, ie. food retail, hotel, conference facility, leisure and so on, but excluded any mention of the stadium."

Gillingham have since agreed an option on a 40-acre site at Mill Hill, but Scally claims that if Peel's revised scheme is allowed to proceed



**SCALLY:** Appeal to councillors over plans

it could blow the club's plans to build a stadium elsewhere out of the water.

He wrote: "We accept that as the landowner, Peel are at liberty to submit any application that they so wish, but if the Peel scheme as presented gains approval, especially with the food retail element included – the most valuable enabling development available

currently – it would be virtually impossible to construct a new stadium for the football club in Medway as there would be insufficient enabling development funding left available from other facilities."

A clear warning followed: "I wanted to take this opportunity to outline to you, and to all members, the very serious position the club has found itself in, effectively frozen out of a site and scheme which it believed it was making progress on.

"It is essential members realise a new stadium in Medway cannot be developed without firstly a site but also, and more significantly, without appropriate enabling development, ie. residential, food retail, conferencing and hotel use, and bulky goods retail."

Scally claims that while there is interest in a supermarket on the Mill Hill site, it is contingent on the Peel scheme being rejected, writing "there is no market for two such retailers in such close proximity".

And his parting shot to members effectively claimed the club's future was at stake.

"I therefore urge you all, if your wishes are still to ensure your local football club remains as part of the community in Medway, to ensure the Peel planning application is rejected in its current form; at least until members are able to fully consider the alternative proposals that will be submitted on Mill Hill, in conjunction with one of the national developers as partners," he said,

## Sport

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## MOTORSPORT

# Shakey puts his foot down in bid to bounce back to health

By Fred Atkins

sports@kosmedia.co.uk

WITH a week to go until the start of the 2012 British Superbike season it's no surprise to hear that Shane Byrne has been out on his bike - but it might raise an eyebrow to find out he left the engine behind.

As he tries to rebuild his fitness following a serious road accident in Spain earlier this year, Byrne has been cycling from his home on Sheppey to the Brands Hatch circuit, stopping for a coffee and riding back again.

"Now and again I pedal up here," he said. "It's like a 75-mile round trip but it's not the most fun of rides because it's quite busy and has lots of winding climbs, but yeah it's a good ride. Getting up the hill from Maidstone takes a bit of doing."

Even on his days off Byrne, who'll be riding a Kawasaki for the Rapid Solicitors PBM team this season, has been cycling for up to an hour on a turbo trainer.

"I didn't have a choice," he joked. "You know the accident happened and I'm doing everything I can to get back to a decent level of fitness."

"It was quite frustrating because I wasn't feeling terrible in the first test in Spain and then I went and flicked myself off the bike and came down on my foot again and that gave me a reminder about how sore things can be."

In other motorsport news, Pat Doran finished second in the opening round of the MSA Rallycross Championship at Lydden Hill, after a fraught week that had left him struggling to find a car.

The Sittingbourne driver eventually found a



**BIKE POWER:** From pedals to engine-power, Shane Byrne is fighting fit for the upcoming season

Citroen Xsara and qualified in third place to start from the front row.

While Ollie O'Donovan exploited pole position to the full by edging away from the field in his Ford Focus, Doran initially fell back, as reigning champion Julian Godfrey and Andy Scott competed for second spot.

However, on the second lap Godfrey's Ford Fiesta span off when trying to tackle a chicane and

Scott's Peugeot suffered a puncture.

Steve Hill became O'Donovan's closest challenger when he moved up to second, but his hopes were scuppered when the bonnet of his Mitsubishi Lancer unexpectedly flew open and blocked the view from his windscreen.

Doran, who at one point hadn't even looked like racing, picked his way through the field to finish second ahead of Steve Mundy.

## RUGBY

## 'Come and support us' – club make appeal for home cheer

SHEPPEY are appealing for as many supporters as possible to get behind them when they take on Folkestone in London 3 South East on Saturday.

"In this crucial league encounter for the Island's first team, we need as much home support as possible as the lads take on Folkestone, a strong side who narrowly beat us earlier in the season," a club spokesman said.

"A large partisan home crowd would be welcomed to spur the guys on in this vital game, we'd welcome everyone."

Only the top five in the division are mathematically safe from relegation, but with Eastbourne doomed and Crawley having withdrawn from the league, five teams are effectively scrambling to avoid 10th place.

With three games left to play, more than any of their rivals, Sheppey are arguably in the strongest position of the five, but Saturday's opponents are third in the table.

Sheppey were due to play Crawley in a league fixture last week and the Sussex side agreed



**CRUNCH:** Big tie against Folkestone

to play the game as a friendly, despite having pulled out of the division after a catastrophic season, due to fears their inexperienced players might suffer injuries.

A young Sheppey side ran in 14 tries to win 92-0 in a game that grew one-sided as the visitors became demoralised.

## FOOTBALL

## Brickies are desperate for a win to end barren spell

SITTINGBOURNE take on Merstham at Bourne Park this Saturday, desperate to end a winless run that stretches back two months.

The Brickies haven't won a game since they beat Whitehawk on January 7 and they've only drawn two of their last 11 games.

The visitors will be without Andre McCollin, who was sent off in last Saturday's game with Whitstable and is suspended.

Sittingbourne gave a decent account of themselves at Dulwich, despite losing 2-0.

Against a team chasing the title they produced an impressive defensive display but eventually succumbed when Ishmail Kamara stabbed in an Ethan Pinnock cross from close range in first-half stoppage time.

Pinnock added a second in the second half and the Brickies had to play the closing stages with 10 men after Dean Palfrey was forced off with an injury when all three substitutes had been used.

When the two sides met at Merstham in September the Brickies earned a 1-1 draw.



**INJURED:** Palfrey forced off

Billy Manners hit a 31st-minute penalty against the post before Merstham took the lead through Roscoe D'Sane a minute into the second half.

Hicham Akhazzan equalised on 63 minutes and Sittingbourne nearly snatched a winner, but in the dying moments Elie Kayembe also hit the woodwork.

In the Kent League Woodstock Sports, who lost 2-1 at Erith & Belvedere on Tuesday night, are away to Corinthian.

## NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FOCUS

WITH FRED ATKINS

### Trouble, but of who's making?

“HOW should you report on anti-social behaviour at football matches?”

During the Thatcher era, football fans were portrayed by the likes of Kelvin McKenzie at the Sun as being one step removed from amoeba, but when the political wind changed stories that would once have had the average Daily Mail reader foaming at the mouth were hushed up, as England mounted doomed bids to host the World Cup.

Significant violence went almost unreported and it was possible to watch the entire 2006 tournament and swallow the myth that England fans were all renaissance men on some kind of cultural exchange, as opposed to topless simpletons showing off their moobs and singing songs about the IRA.

In the past decade the most serious incident I witnessed at a non-league game was a fan throwing a can of lager at a rival goalkeeper during a Kent League Cup final.

It wasn't exactly clever, but it must have been a slow news week at a rival publication because they treated this as front page news and raised the spectre of hooliganism returning.

My report mentioned the incident and said that the game, played on a day when there were no Football League fixtures, had attracted a number of fans from London clubs, some of whom were singing slightly un-PC songs but none of whom were causing trouble.

The following week an anonymous letter appeared in the post, purporting to be from an organisation called Millwall In The County of Kent, claiming this report was a travesty and protesting the Lions' name had been dragged through the mud.

I had a pretty good idea who the author was, knew he wasn't speaking for Millwall officially and was also pretty sure he'd not been at the game, which meant he wasn't in a strong position to pass judgement on something he hadn't actually seen.

I wasn't at Herne Bay last Saturday so I can't comment on the alleged boorishness that took place during their FA Vase semi-final first leg with West Auckland, but most of the reports I read led on the football angle and seemed to keep everything in proportion.

This included the report on Bay's official website, which to the club's credit refused to sweep the incidents under the carpet.

While Herne Bay's manager Simon Halsey understandably wanted to talk about the football, he did say that when you have 2,000 people gathered something's could kick off, particularly if there's alcohol involved.

At the exact moment that game kicked off I was walking past a 'family' pub, where parents were swearing at their pitbulls and letting their own cigarette smoke blown into the faces of their offspring. At a football ground this would constitute anti-social behaviour.

In a Maidstone alehouse it just isn't news.





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